



To find out why Sian and Natasja look starstruck, see page 7.

Bridgend & Porthcawl

GEM



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THURSDAY, JUNE 4TH, 2009

Offenders to be housed in a bail hostel at Bridgend?

THE Ministry of Justice wants to open new bail hostels in Bridgend and Barry.

The Bail Accommodation and Support Scheme (BASS) is operated on their behalf by ClearSprings Management Ltd to provide bail accommodation for up to a maximum of five people in a property, and these are people who do not need to be held in custody.

At the moment, there are hostels in Newport, Cardiff, Swansea and Wrexham. The scheme is now being expanded to other towns in Wales.

Consultations will take place with police, probation service and councils in each area

involved to secure agreement, but it is unclear if planning consent is needed or if there is any public consultation.

The GEM understands that the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) is looking for 48 places throughout Wales for people out on bail, or tagged, who are awaiting trial or sentence and have no accommodation.

A spokesman for the Vale Council confirmed that talks were under way on this proposal.

Alun Billingham, head of public protection, said the matter had been referred to the Safer Vale Partnership, which is to consider the request from ClearSprings and then comment on the proposal put forward.

He added: "A meeting

of the task and finish group is being arranged to consider this and, if agreed, to recommend a way forward to comment on any proposals submitted."

A spokesman for Bridgend County Borough Council said that they understood that three places are needed in the county borough.

"The council does not have the right to veto the placements. However, the authority recognises its responsibilities towards all members of its community and its need to work with important partners, such as the MoJ and the police, who have been involved with this project."

The statement added that the people put onto such supported accommodation schemes are assessed for their suitability and will not include sex offenders or violent offenders. Placements are usually young men but could include women or families.

An existing three-bedroomed property in Bridgend has already been identified, which will be leased by ClearSprings from the private owner.

Summer sunshine brings out the Rest Bay vandals



ABOVE: Lifeguard Gareth Davies sifts the pebbles to remove broken glass.

LIFEGUARDS in Porthcawl were forced to clear up after vandals set a bonfire on the beach and smashed beer bottles all over the pebble bank.

It was feared that a lifebuoy, which has gone missing after its housing was smashed, was consigned to the flames.

The weekend's hot weather brought thousands of visitors to Porthcawl's blue flag beach Rest Bay and, over the weekend, lifeguards dealt with a number of first aids and found several lost children.

However, when they arrived on Sunday morning, they had to clean up after the vandalism – the remains of a large fire full of empty beer bottles and broken glass.

The bottles littered the entire pebble bank. Lifeguard Chris Page said: "Sunday was the busiest day of our season so far, so it was disappointing to arrive in the morning and have to spend more than an hour clearing up broken glass from the previous night – when we should be setting up our equipment for the day."

"We filled two black bins full of broken glass, and even then had first aid cases where young children had cut themselves on glass."

He added: "Destroying the lifebuoy is not only mindless vandalism, but also a criminal offence."



ABOVE: The vandalised lifebuoy housing.

'Quiz me on my expenses at surgery' - Bridgend MP invites

BRIDGEND MP Madeleine Moon is holding two surgeries in Bridgend and Porthcawl on

Saturday, June 6, for constituents who wish to discuss personal issues, or talk

about the issue of MPs' expenses.

They will be held in the MP's constituency office, 47 Nolton Street, Bridgend, from 3pm-4pm and at Trinity Church, Porthcawl, from 5pm-6pm. No appointment is necessary.

The public can also visit her website to see copies of all the additional costs allowance and communication allowance receipts, at www.madeleinemoon-mp.com Mrs Moon stated.

Win a pair of tickets to see

'Take That'
with The GEM and Bro Radio 98.1FM

The GEM bro radio

Full details on page 19

Celebrating 5 years of Slimtone at Sainsbury's - Slimtone's Marie Griffiths and Sainsbury's Bev Price



"A slimming club in a supermarket – it'll never catch on!" But five years later and healthy eating pioneer Marie Griffiths has proved that for many people it is the best way to beat the bulge.

Marie, who founded Slimtone in Bridgend 27 years ago, moved her Tuesday evening slimming class to the restaurant at Sainsbury's in Sarn in 2004.

Marie said: "Some people thought it was a crazy idea, but the class has continued to grow from day 1 and here we are celebrating our 5th birthday in the store."

"Being based in a supermarket is so much more convenient. People can drop in before or after their weekly shop and I can show them first hand which products have a hidden fat content and which are the healthier options."

And it's not just for shoppers – the class has attracted members of staff in the Sainsbury's store as well.

Bev Price, a Customer Assistant at Sainsbury's in Bridgend, has lost over 4 stone. "It's great being able to come to the store and come to class. Marie's healthy eating plan is so straightforward – it's not a diet, it's just normal food. Marie is such an inspiration to everyone and her tips have really helped me."

Find out for yourself with Slimtone at Sainsbury's every Tuesday at 6pm.

Why not check out our Porthcawl classes at the Fairways Hotel, Thursdays weekly 10-11am.

For more information about all classes in your area, contact

01656 870339

www.slimtone.co.uk

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LEST WE FORGET THE HEROES WHO PAVED THE WAY TO D-DAY

THE forthcoming celebrations commemorating the Normandy Landings (June 6, 1944) should not obscure the fact that the Second World War had already been fought for four and a half years (September 1939) prior to D-Day.

It is historically important that school and college students are made aware of this.

The British Expeditionary force to France in 1939, were outgunned and outmanoeuvred by the German army, resulting in the humiliating retreat from

Dunkirk in 1940. At the same time, the British defeat and withdrawal from Norway led Parliament to call for Chamberlain's resignation.

On the plus side, the courage of our air crews in the Battle of Britain (their finest hour) against the Luftwaffe, decided Hitler would not invade Britain.

In North Africa, the 1st and 8th Armies suffered many reverses before Montgomery's brilliant victory at El Alamein in 1942.

Churchill described it as the end of the beginning (D-Day was later known as the beginning of the end).

Mussolini having declared war on Britain meant fresh campaigns for the 8th Army.

After defeating the Germans in Sicily, the campaign in Italy began with the Salerno Landings (September 1943), which continued until the end of the war.

In the Far East, Churchill described the loss of Singapore to the Japanese as his worst moment of the war, when the entire British garrison surrendered.

Army, RAF, Navy, military nurses and British civilians all became prisoners of the Japanese.

However, the gallant British 14th army fought through Burma against a merciless enemy, in the most difficult jungle conditions.

It is well documented that British POWs were in an appalling state when they were repatri-

ated in 1945.

In 1941, a British force, on Churchill's direct orders, invaded Iraq, surrounding Baghdad and commandeering Basra port and airfield.

The Iraq prime minister, Rashid Ali, had collaborated with Hitler to provoke an Arab revolt against Britain.

During this period, thousands of Royal Navy sailors were lost at sea as were many of our capital warships, mainly as a result of German U-boat action.

Their names are inscribed on the magnificent war memorial on Plymouth Hoe. Another estimated 28,000 merchant navy seamen perished at sea in their endeavour to bring vital supplies to war-stricken

Britain. Finally, the outstanding contribution of the RAF, particularly the bravery of the air crews, must never be forgotten.

Fighter Command, as well as Bomber Command's dangerous night missions over Germany, cost the lives of thousands of aircrews. As a Second World War homeguard and Army veteran, I felt it appropriate to scramble these thoughts on paper in recognition of all those who had served the country with distinction before D-Day.

It should be remembered that the British Second Army formed only part of an allied Force under an American Supreme Commander, General Dwight Eisenhower.

American, Canadian,

Australian, South African, New Zealand, Indian and many others, such as Polish, free French, as well as men from the British colonies, all formed part of the D-Day landing force.

With the Soviet Red Army advancing on Berlin from the east, Hitler was doomed.

When the war ended, I remember being posted to a new division formed in Italy ('Y' division) bound for the Far East to finish the war with Japan.

However, the atom bomb was dropped as 'Y' division was being kitted out, so the need for reinforcements for Japan disappeared overnight.

IDRIS BERRY, Porthcawl

THE COLUMN YOU WRITE

Readers' Letters

We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. Letters should include an address and contact telephone number. An email address alone is not sufficient. We will (in certain circumstances), protect a writer's identity, if requested. Please keep your letters brief and address them to: The Editor, Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL.

'No swimming pool in the town penalises the youth of Porthcawl'

BCBC has recently announced a scheme, supported by the Welsh Assembly Government, whereby children under-16 will be given a free swimming card which they can use during the school holidays – and it is a wonderful idea.

It is stated that swimming can help to improve a child's confidence, strength, balance and co-ordination.

Unfortunately, as the Bridgend Borough Council knows, the children of Porthcawl are automatically penalised.

They will not be able to take advantage of these benefits and concessions as Porthcawl is the only town in the borough that does not possess a council-run swimming pool.

I was pleased to read that Coun Nott was impressed with the £6 million upgrade of Ynysawdre swimming pool, and that he now enjoys the pleasure of swimming.

Therefore, it is rather ironic that Coun Nott and BCBC are against Porthcawl having a swimming pool, notwithstanding the fact that the many millions of pounds from the sale of land in Porthcawl would pay for the building of a swim-

ming pool. The extra £2 million annually in council taxes from the rates on the 1,350 new properties, to be built under regeneration plans, would pay for the running costs of the pool.

Perhaps this is a strong case for the Porthcawl council to engage the assistance of Joanna Lumley to fight and rectify this incredible and unjust situation. John Jenkins, Porthcawl

Memorial service in Porthcawl

WE, the Porthcawl branch of the Royal British Legion, are holding a commemorative service in John Street on Saturday next, to remind ourselves of the thousands of Allied troops who were based in Porthcawl and the surrounding area some 65 years ago.

They left from here to take part in the hell that was the Normandy landings: an event which turned the tide in the war and changed our lives for ever.

The service will start at about 10.15am and will involve schoolchildren and the PC Male Voice Choir. Then at 11am there will be the exhortation and the sounding of the Last Post, and a two-minute silence.

David Newton-Williams, Porthcawl

TELL US YOUR NEWS AND VIEWS!

We welcome your news, views and sports items. Please email them to the The GEM's editorial department at:

ggem@internet-today.co.uk

HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL JUNE 11)

The high tides listed in The GEM are those in Barry. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Porthcawl, the high point will be 15–20 minutes earlier.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
04 Thur	04.52	13.3	17.23	13.3
05 Fri	05.47	13.4	18.08	13.4
06 Sat	06.37	13.5	18.49	13.6
07 Sun	07.14	13.7	19.37	13.8
08 Mon	07.56	13.5	20.20	13.7
09 Tues	08.41	13.5	21.01	13.8
10 Wed	09.12	13.4	21.33	13.6
11 Thur	09.54	13.3	22.08	13.5

Bridgend first in the line-up to share £8.85m European funding

BRIDGEND-based First 4 Numbers is the first company in south-east Wales to benefit from a new European Union Convergence funded scheme – the south-east Wales local investment fund.

The company produces numbers for major sporting events such as the London Marathon

and was awarded the grant to purchase two specialist printing machines. The south-east Wales scheme, which held its official launch in Bridgend, will provide small and medium sized businesses (SMEs) with a customer-led approach to funding opportunities and will be available until 2013.

Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) is one of the six authorities benefiting

from £8.75 million of European funding, aimed at delivering financial assistance in the form of grants to support local business projects.

Coun Mel Nott, leader of BCBC, said: "The local investment fund is the culmination of excellent joint working between the 15 local authorities in the European convergence area of Wales and the Welsh Assembly

Government. It has been designed to complement the Assembly Government's single investment fund.

"While the local scheme will offer smaller levels of support to businesses for capital investments, generally in the range of £1,000 to £5,000, the Assembly's scheme will look at cases above £5,000. It makes the process so much easier for businesses to understand."

LOCAL INFORMATION

MADELEINE MOON MP for Bridgend
Westminster office - 02072194417
Constituency office - 47, Noltton Street, Bridgend.
Open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 10am - 12pm. Telephone 01656 750002
HUW IRRANCA-DAVIES MP for Ogmore
Constituency Office 01656 737777
JANICE GREGORY AM for Ogmore
Constituency Office 01656 860034
CARWYN JONES AM for Bridgend
Constituency office 01656 664320
Bethan Jenkins AM for South West Wales
Telephone 01639 643549
BRIDGEND CAB Citizens' Advice Bureau,
Ground Floor, 26 Dunraven Place, Bridgend
CF31 1JD 01656 654951 – Open to personal callers: Tuesday-Friday 10am-12.30pm or telephone service: Monday-Friday 10am-12.30pm.
MAESTEG CAB Citizens' Advice Bureau
01656 734662
POLICE Bridgend 01656 655555
Porthcawl 01656 785411
Maesteg 01656 732122
CRIMESTOPPERS 0800 555111
(Emergency number 999)
COASTGUARD 01792 366534
GAS (escapes and emergency) 0800 111999
ELECTRICITY (power cuts) 0800 0520400
WATER SUPPLY (emergency) 0800 0520130
FLOOD LINE 0845 9881188
HELPLINES
Alcohol and drugs:
Drinkline 0800 9178282
National Drugs Helpline 0800 776600
DASH 01656 650686
SSAFA – Forces Help for serving and ex-service men, women and families in need 01656 785435
RAF Association Welfare Officer
01495 249522/01446 740522
SAMARITANS (emotional support) 01656 662333
MENTAL DISTRESS
(Mental Health Matters) 01656 767045
CHILDLINE 0800 1111
NSPCC 0800 800500
RSPCA 0300 123 0744
WOMEN'S AID 01656 766139
Bridgend Carers' Centre 01656 658479
Alzheimer's Society (Bridgend) 01656 651490
BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL (selected numbers)
Housing service
(General enquiries) 01656 643643;
(emergencies out of hours) 01656 663247;
(homelessness) 01656 643542
EDUCATION 01656 642643
LEISURE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES 01656 642677
HIGHWAYS (drains, blockages etc) 01656 643421
HIGHWAYS EMERGENCIES
(outside normal working hours) 07831 143600
SOCIAL SERVICES
(general enquiries) 01656 642200
SOCIAL SERVICE EMERGENCIES
(outside normal working hours) 01443 204010
HOSPITALS Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend 01656 752752
Bridgend and District NHS Trust 01656 752752
VOLUNTARY WORK Bridgend Association of Voluntary Organisations (BAVO) 01656 810400
TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCILS
Brackla Community Council 01656 767072
Bridgend Town Council 01656 659943
Cefn Cribwr Community Council 01656 741354
Coity Higher Community Council 01656 656358
Cornelly Community Council 07882 044798
Pyle Community Council 01656 670251
Coychurch Higher Community Council 01656 863418
Coychurch Lower Community Council 01656 647216
Garw Valley Community Council 01656 736751
Laleston Community Council 01656 656506
Llangynwyd Lower Council 01656 728662
Maesteg Town Council 01656 732631
Merthyr Mawr Community Council 01656 670058
Newcastle Higher Community Council 01446 772536
Ogmore Valley Community Council 01656 849402
Pencoe Town Council 01656 869031
Porthcawl Town Council 01656 782215
St Brides Minor Community Council 01656 725031
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Great evening out raises £800 for St John's School

PARENTS, staff and governors of St John's School, Porthcawl, recently enjoyed an evening out at The Great House Hotel, Laleston.

Former pupil, Mr Andrew RT Davies AM, gave an amusing after-dinner speech recalling some favourite memories from his time at St John's, which included climbing a vertical greased pole at the end of the school drive!

Headmistress Mrs Carol Clint also spoke about the next exciting project for St John's, a brand new building for the pre-prep department which will be erected in the summer holidays.

The black tie dinner was organised by Mrs Catherine Perkins and Mrs Alice El Kilany of the Friends of St John's and Mrs Perkins (chairperson) proudly announced that the evening had raised a marvellous £800.



Mrs E Clint, headmistress, Graham Hynan (dedicated minibuss driver) and Mrs E Lougher, deputy head.



LEFT: Mrs Catherine Perkins, the chairperson with the speaker, Andrew RT Davies AM.

BRIDGEND WOMAN'S EVEREST ADVENTURE – in aid of the Red Cross

CHERRY WRIGHT (64), has returned home to Bridgend, after a challenging expedition to the Everest base camp.

She tackled freezing temperatures and altitude sickness in order to make the journey 17,600ft above sea level.

The trek was completed to raise money for Licking Lassa Fever, a project run by the Wales south region of the Soroptimist International Great Britain & Ireland (SIGBI). Lassa Fever is a viral disease, carried by rats, which kills thousands of people across west Africa each year.

All money raised for the Licking Lassa Fever

project will be donated to the British Red Cross community-based health project in Sierra Leone, which is providing clean water supplies, latrines and health education, among other things, to local communities in the region.

Cherry Wright, local resident and president of the Soroptimist International Cardiff & District Club, said: "I am convinced that providing potable water, latrines, environmental programmes and seeds to grow food will help decrease the incidence of Lassa Fever, as well as other water mediated diseases such as Cholera and malaria.

"Through the provision of these facilities to local communities in Sierra Leone, the British Red Cross project will be making a very big difference to the lives of some of the world's poorest and most vulnerable people.

"Climbing to base camp was an extraordinary experience, made even more special by the magnificent scenery surrounding us. However, it was exhausting work. "All the training in the gym and on the Malvern Hills didn't prepare me for the reduction in oxygen and consequent breathlessness.

"While I wasn't expecting luxury, the facilities in the final stages didn't make com-

pleting the climb any easier:

"The loo was a communal hole in the ground, the communal shower was freezing, and the beds were covered with a duvet and pillow that looked like they hadn't been washed for a very long time."

To date, £45,000 has been raised to support the project. However, a further £135,000 is still needed.

"The British Red Cross Community Based Health Project in Sierra Leone aims to improve

the health of 68,000 vulnerable people living in 170 communities.

"We urgently need to raise more funds if we are to provide all the communities with the clean water facilities and latrines they need, in order to prevent Lassa Fever and other diseases," said Christine Tokar, programme support manager for Africa at the British Red Cross.

The public is being urged to help by making a donation at www.everyclick.com/kayrichmond.

Volunteers step in to help Sandville

VOLUNTEERS from the Bridgend {Prince's Trust programme recently helped out at the Sandville Self Help Centre for patients diagnosed with a serious illness.

It has 11 beds available and offers overnight stay facilities for crisis situations.

The centre provides therapies such as reflexology, relaxation, yoga and aromatherapy, social and psychological care for patients and families.

The Bridgend Prince's Trust team, including Barry College learners, assisted patients and held quizzes throughout

their three days at the centre.

Team leader, Nic Radford said: "The Prince's Trust Team Programme is all about building confidence and motivation.

"The team really enjoyed the experience, it has made them gain awareness of their local community and how they can contribute to it while developing their team-working and communication skills."

The Bridgend Prince's Trust Team Programme is a 12-week personal development course, offering work experience, qualifications, practical skills, community projects and a residential week.

GEM fan in California!

I AM sure the editor will be pleased with this e-mail received last weekend:

"I THOUGHT I would write and let you know that I read the Bridgend GEM out here in San Jose, California; it is a way of keeping in touch with my home.

"My mum, Megan, lives at Mill View, Maesteg. I was born and raised in Caerau, but moved to California 30 years ago.

"I love your paper. Thank you for helping me keep in touch with my roots."

Kerry Mortimer. I am sure Kerry's Mum will be pleased as well!

Art society

Maesteg Art Society was formed 22 years ago by a group of amateur artists who met at Plasnewydd Primary School.

As the number of members increased, it moved to the Sports Centre and thence to Maesteg College, where it meets on Wednesday evenings from 3.30pm-6pm (term times only).

Some of the original members are still painting with them today.

They use oils, watercolours, acrylics, pastels, pen and wash and charcoal.

Most are inspired by the valleys and mountains all around, the industrial heritage and many historic buildings.

The society holds its annual exhibition in Maesteg town hall on Friday, June 19, between 10am-6pm.

Paramedic's talk

Aberkenfig Retired Persons Club welcomed Mr Steve Roberts, senior paramedic for this area, as

NORTH BRIDGEND NEWS

A message for all readers in the north of Bridgend who would like to have items included in the community news columns of The GEM:

If you wish to submit reports on any social activity in this region, please contact me. I am very approachable and will endeavour to include every newsworthy subject.

Contact details: CLIVE MITCHELL

1 Tyn-Y-Coed Close, Sarn, Bridgend CF32 9NQ

TEL: 01656 725399

email: tynycod1@yahoo.co.uk



the speaker at their recent meeting.

He gave a talk on critical situations paramedics are called upon to deal with. He brought along some of the equipment they use in an emergency situation, and demonstrated how it would be used.

Speed is the essence in a great number of instances and a paramedic is required to make an instant diagnosis.

The medical team has a fleet of four cars and two vans for the area, based in Bryncethin.

If all these vehicles are on a call-out and an emergency situation arises, the team can call on helicopters based in Swansea, which take approximately 10 minutes to arrive.

They have also set up a First Response group in the Ogmog Valley using volunteers to assist paramedics.

On June 18, the club is organising a coach trip to Weston-Super-Mare, leaving the Central Café at 9.30am.

The cost is subsidised and is only £7 per person.

There are still a few seats available. If interested, telephone Joyce/Tom on 01656 720823/720026.

The club meets at the Len Evans Centre, Heol Persondy every Wednesday between 1.45pm-4pm.

Visitors and new members are warmly welcomed.

Ladies choir

Ogmog Valley Ladies have done it again! Every year, the choir organises events to earn money for their nominated charity, and recently donated £4,200 towards the Samaritans.

This year, members are collecting for the First Response Unit. Let us hope they are as successful in 2009.

The choir has been in existence since 1965, and rehearses at Ogmog Vale Welfare Hall, on Mondays between 6.30pm-8.30pm.

All visitors are warmly welcomed to these practice sessions.

Telephone Meriel on 01656 840144.

Longleat outing

THE Welsh Wildlife Trust is proposing to organise a coach trip to Longleat Safari Park on Thursday, August 27.

This is a stress-free journey with no worries about parking, or monkeys stealing your cars' windscreen wipers; and it will be a fun packed day!

If interested, telephone Nicola on 01656 724100 or email membership@welshwildlife.org

Communities First, Sarn

IF you are responsible for looking after relatives at home, and would like information on getting assistance, or meeting others in the same position, Communities First is holding a special carers' event on June 11 between 2pm-4pm at Bryncethin Memorial Hall.

For more information,

WE welcome your news and views. Please email them to the Editorial Department at: ggem@internet-today.co.uk

telephone Bethan Walliway on 01656 815136, or Phil Davies on 01656 815139.

Farm incentive

IF members of the public are interested in 'green' farming, go along to Slade Farm, Wick Road, St Bride's Major on Sunday, June 7 between 11am-5pm.

Admission is free and the initiative is linked closely with the Leaf Charit, which co-ordinates good farming practices to prevent the environment from being damaged.

To add further interest, there will be exotic reptiles, rabbits and performing dogs.

Ogmog Valley SHOUT forum

A Credit Union adviser will be available on Friday mornings at the Berwyn Centre, between 10am-11am.

SHOUT has been formed by volunteers to assist the elderly.

For more information, telephone 01656 841479 or 840937.

Gingering up the single parents

THE Bridgend Friendship Group is calling on single parents in the area to "come together and help provide this vital support for each other".

For further information contact the membership team at Gingerbread, on 0800 018 4318, Monday-Friday, 2pm-5pm.

Ty Hafan links up with a local company

BRIDGEND-based construction company Jehu Project Services has announced Ty Hafan as its chosen charity for 2009/10.

The 70-year-old company will raise money for the children's hospice through planned charity events, corporate events, ink cartridge recycling as well as donating any money raised during office 'fun and dress down days'.

Huw Evans, commercial director, explained: "Ty Hafan is a charity that we as a company have the utmost respect for. They are celebrating their tenth anniversary this year and we thought it fitting that they should be adopted as our chosen charity for 2009.

Sponsorship and fundraising is paramount to Ty Hafan continuing

their good work.

"We hope to be able to give as much as possible throughout the next year to Ty Hafan and the families it helps."

Carers consulted on strategy for borough

PEOPLE who provide care for family members, partners or friends, have added their views to a draft carer strategy for Bridgend County Borough.

Officials estimate that there are currently 350,000 carers in Wales and a further 6,000 people who take on a caring responsibility every day.

In Bridgend County Borough, 3.5 per cent of the local population provide more than 50 hours of unpaid care to family

or friends every week.

The carers consultation event was organised by Bridgend County Borough Council's support at home team. It brought together local people who offer care for those who are ill, frail or disabled.

They were addressed by speakers Vicky Yeates from the University of Glamorgan and Sharon Coleman, a carer who successfully sued her employers for constructive dismissal.

Coun Lyn Morgan, cabinet member for Wellbeing, said: "We

recognise the invaluable contribution that carers make. This event was about listening to their views and what they need to maintain and improve their health and wellbeing.

"It is vital that we uphold and encourage the culture of working in partnership with carers at all levels."

She added: "The Carers Consultation event demonstrated that carers are valued as equal partners in the provision of care in Bridgend county borough."



ABOVE: Cherry pictured at the base camp.

RESTAURANT TO OPEN IN A TOWN 'HOT SPOT'

A NEW licensed restaurant is to open in the old Tesco at Market Street, Bridgend.

The decision to grant the licences for music, supply of alcohol and late hours was made by Bridgend County Borough Council's licensing sub-committee in favour of the Mr Jones Restaurant.

The applicants were Ko Shing Restaurant Ltd. Bridgend planners have laid down opening

hours for the Chinese restaurant.

The restaurant is located in a designated hot spot in Bridgend town centre, where the council has adopted a special policy, after representations from police concerned about the cumulative impact of having so many licensed premises in a small area.

The new policy for the area came into effect in 2008 and this stated that new applications which would increase the cumulative impact

would normally be refused.

However, applicants can attempt to show that they would not add to that cumulative impact.

Initially, police objected to the application, stating that in their view it would increase crime, disorder and public nuisance both at and in the vicinity of the premises.

Their report went on: "The hot spot is a high density drinking area and contains the highest concentration of licensed premises within the borough and therefore experiences the greatest volume of pedestrian traffic."

However, when the committee met, officers reported that talks had taken place between the applicants and the police and changes have now been agreed about the way in which the premises will be operated.

As a result, police had withdrawn their objections. The licensing sub-committee then granted the licences applied for, subject to a series of conditions.

However, when the committee met, officers reported that talks had taken place between the applicants and the police and changes have now been agreed about the way in which the premises will be operated.

As a result, police had withdrawn their objections. The licensing sub-committee then granted the licences applied for, subject to a series of conditions.

Volunteers sought for Pencoed PACT surgery

PENCOED neighbourhood policing team is seeking volunteers to host a new-style PACT surgery in Pencoed station at Heol-y-Groes.

"By having a surgery run by residents, the team is hoping the public will feel more comfortable about raising any community concerns," said Pencoed beat manager PC Sam Beaumont.

"Having a surgery run by community volunteers will be perfect for residents who would prefer to have their voice heard in a more informal setting. Any issues raised in the PACT surgery will be forwarded to us by the host volunteer, and then we'll make an appointment to have a chat with the reporting person."

"PACT surgeries at the station will also provide people with set dates and times when the station is open. This will make us more accessible and residents can drop by with any concerns they may have."



PC Sam Beaumont and PCSO Lauren Dillon on the look-out for volunteers to run the Pencoed station PACT surgery.

As well as monthly evening PACT meetings, PCSOs Lauren Dillon and Meurig Coleman hold a student surgery every week in Pencoed Comprehensive.

The neighbourhood team also organised a youth drop-in centre in association with the Safer Bridgend Community Partnership, which is held every Thursday night from 6pm-9pm at the Woodlands Pavilion. Now run by 'Youth Works', the centre provides a Nintendo Wii, a snooker table and other features for young people to use.

PC Beaumont said: "Some of the youths who attend the drop-in centre have previously been involved in antisocial behaviour, but the centre now gives them something positive to focus their energy on. Previously there weren't enough facilities in Pencoed for non-sporting teenagers."

Anyone interested in being a volunteer can contact PC Sam Beaumont on 07891 820113. Alternatively, join the team for a 'Cuppa with a Copper' on June 2, in the Pencoed Community Welfare Hall.

Probus Club of Bridgend holds annual meeting

AT the annual general meeting of the Bridgend Probus club last week, the retiring president, Robert Snell, reviewed his year of office, and thanked members of the committee for their devotion to their respective duties, which had made the year so successful and enjoyable.

The club had been well attended throughout the year and several new members had been welcomed to its ranks.

He referred to the fascinating speakers who had been to the Club in the last 12 months, and the range of topics that had been covered, including the history of cutlery, pedestrianism in the 19th and 20th centuries, and life in Nepal.

The treasurer reported that the financial year had ended satisfactorily,

and that subscriptions, which were now due, did not need to be increased.

Various amendments to the constitution were accepted, so that the president and vice-president, who were only allowed to serve one year in office since the club was formed in 1993, will now be eligible for reelection like the rest of the officers of the club.

The meeting also agreed that the constitution be changed to allow for the appointment of deputies to each officer of the club, to act in their absence during the year.

The retiring president

then handed over his chain of office to the new president, Alan Phillips, who closed the meeting.

The club is now looking forward to another year of stimulating speakers and visits to places of interest.

Topics to be covered in the next few months include recruitment in Bridgend to Lord Kitchener's army, local prehistoric excavations, the slave trade, and shipping in the Bristol Channel.

Members were reminded about their anniversary lunch in June.

PUPILS OPEN NEW STORE

LOCAL children performed the ribbon-cutting ceremony to officially launch the £200,000 new-looking Co-op food store in Pontycymmer today (Thursday).

Pupils from Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Cwm Grw and Ffaldau Primary were presented with donations of £100 for their school funds by store manager Paul Williams to mark the occasion.

Police sergeant takes over 13 Maesteg areas

A BRIDGEND borough police sergeant has taken over the neighbourhood policing of 13 out of 17 areas in the Maesteg region.

Neighbourhood Sgt. Chris Truscott will now lead the neighbourhood policing teams from the top of the valleys in Nantymoel and Blaengarw down to Sarn and Pen-y-Fai.

Having served in the Maesteg region for almost four years, Sgt. Truscott knows the area well.

He said: "Being geographically large and semi-rural in nature, the Maesteg sector is a really interesting area to police.

I've really enjoyed the past four years here and am looking forward to the challenges policing 13 wards will bring."

"Every community in the region has different needs, but the neighbourhood policing teams are experts on their patches and I've got the support of a great set of officers."

"One of our main priorities will be tackling anti-social behaviour across the sector. It is a recurring area of concern for residents in PACT meetings."

"We will be looking to extend the successful reduction of antisocial behaviour we have seen in Pontycymmer and Bettws through various partnership initiatives."



Sgt Truscott, beat manager for Blaengarw and Pontycymmer.

Who wants to build what and where?

Mr P McCarthy, 10 Bridgend Road, Porthcawl – work to trees in rear garden.

Mrs A Phillips, rear 10 Sedd Goch, Brackla – cut overhanging branches.

RVW Consulting, land at Chelsea Avenue, Cefn Glas – demolish houses, flats, maisonettes.

ABC Drives, 37A and 37B Sker Walk, Porthcawl – new conservatory to each house, new road in roof to each plot, additional window to rear elevation.

Mr D Williams, Flat 4, 17 Maesteg Road, Tondur – build wall 2m high and 2m inside existing boundary wall, 5m long, roof over to existing height of the boundary.

and change to area of landscaping.

Mrs M Huxtable, 20 Albert Street, Maesteg – single storey shower room extension for registered disabled person.

Mr and Mrs Prosser, 57 Brynteg Avenue, Bridgend – extension to side and alterations to garage roof.

Miss C Milbourne, 21 Parc Deri, Broadlands, Bridgend – convert integral garage to living accommodation.

Business Park, St Athan – development of a Defence Technical College.

Rest Bay Property Co. Ltd, West Farm House, Lougher Row, Porthcawl – refurbishment and alterations.

Mr Limbert, 28 Cherry Tree Avenue, Porthcawl – conservatory.

Bridgend CBC, land at Dunraven Place, Ogmere Vale – entrance art features.

Mr R McLaggen, land at Merthyr Mawr House, Bridgend – convert listed buildings to offices, demolish shed/replace with office and new office unit and associated works.

Tesco Stores Ltd, Castle Street, Maesteg – resting of a combined heat and power (VCHP) unit to provide sustainable method of powering the store.

MRJ Properties Ltd, land at Hillside Green, Pen y Fai – residential development of two dwellings.

Mr D Hall, 27 Llynfi Court, Maesteg – greenhouse cabin, gazebo, shed (single combi unit).

Industrial Estate, Bridgend – maintenance/vehicle storage depot, construct wash down facility and minor alterations to site gates and curb RADII.

Mr M Philip, Hillcrest, Penybryn Road, Brynmenyn – loft conversion, new dormer balcony to front and small rear dormer over stair.

Mr R Stephens, land adjacent 23 Canberr Road, Bridgend – detached three bedroom dwelling.

Co-Operative Group (CWS) Ltd, Co-Op, 10 Canolfan, Brackla – install new shopfront and replace automatic sliding doors.

Bridgend walkway wins a civil engineers' award

BRIDGEND town centre's new river walkway, Angel Gateway, has won a top award from the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE) and has been cited as an "outstanding example" of a civil engineering project in Wales.

ICE presented Bridgend County Borough Council with the Roy Edwards Award 2009 for the project at a recent awards ceremony.

A suspended structure over the River Ogmere which incorporates a footbridge link to Angel Street, Angel Gateway runs between the historic Old Bridge at Dunraven Place and the Water Street Bridge.

Praised by both the Civic Trust and Bridgend Chamber of Trade, the walkway was given the name Angel Gateway by pupils from Penybont Primary School.

It beat off competition from 15 other projects to win the ICE award for

its overall impact and use of modern, innovative structures amid historical surroundings.

Other winning factors included its robust, detailed design, the effective partnership arrangements of its construction, and its potential as a catalyst for regeneration.

Council Leader Mel Nott said: "This is excellent news and demonstrates the beneficial impact and high quality of the walkway."

"Angel Gateway offers a valuable link to riverside businesses and plays an important role in the ongoing regeneration of Bridgend town centre."

The Angel Gateway project was funded by the European Regional Development Fund and the Welsh Assembly Government's Local Regeneration Fund.

The principal engineering designer for the scheme was Arup and the architect was James Brotherhood and Associates. Angel Gateway was constructed by Carillion Civil Engineering.

Mayor finishes year with visit to the Sandville



PHOTOGRAPH by KEITH E MORGAN

ABOVE:

As her last official duty, Coun Eileen McElveen, the Mayor of Bridgend Town Council, handed to Gary Banks, manager of the Sandville Self Help Centre, Kenfig, a plaque bearing the Bridgend coat of arms and inscribed: 'Presented in Recognition of Your Work for the Community, March 2009'. She was accompanied by her consort, Coun Gerald Davies.

End of half-term news from Ysgol Pencoed Comprehensive School

MANY congratulations to Rachel Starritt, (year-9) who won a clutch of medals at the South Glamorgan Festival for Young Musicians, held at the Cathedral School in Cardiff early May.

Rachel won the best performance trophy for her piano recital in the senior category, competing against much older students.

Rachel also came third in the young recitalist section (clarinet) and second in the ensemble, playing with a cellist and recorder player.

Later on in May, Rachel was presented with a trophy for 'most promising pianist' at the South Glamorgan Festival of Music gala concert.

Congratulations go to all those who took part in the Mid Glamorgan Athletic Championships held in Aberdare.

A special mention for

Jack Delve, who came first in the 800m and Catherine James, who was first in 100m – both will go on to represent Mid Glam in the Welsh Schools Championships in July.

On the artistic front, Jade Marling and Fay Hawkins of year-10, were awarded prizes for their entries in Show Racism the Red Card competition award ceremony held in the Millennium Stadium.

Llongyfarchiadau! Zoe Tucker, of year-13, got through to the final stage of the Urdd national eisteddfod in Cardiff last week in the under-19 Welsh learner recitation competition.

Congratulations also to the modern foreign languages department for being the only school in Wales selected to deliver Level 2 NVQ in French.

This is a pilot project in conjunction with CILT Cymru and is an acknowledgment of the hard work done by Mrs Louise Pearce and the department's staff in the development of voca-

tional languages. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the £125 raised in the Canteen collection for the Real Radio Childline Wales campaign recently.

Well done also to year-10 child development class for raising £26 for Bobath Cymru from the sale of cakes.

If you are interested in buying or selling, don't forget to support the PTA at their next boot sale which will be held on the school grounds 9am-12pm on Sunday, June 7.



**Bwrdd Lechyd Lleol
Local Health Board**
Pen-y-Bont ar Ogwr, Bridgend

PUBLIC NOTICE

A meeting in public of the
Bridgend Local Health Board
will be held on
Thursday 11th June 2009
at **2.30 pm** at

**The Innovations Centre, Technology Drive
Bridgend Science Park
Bridgend, CF31 3NA**

ALL MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME

We welcome communication in both English and Welsh. If you require any translation facility at the meeting, please contact us prior to the meeting.

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Cynhelir Cyfarfod o
Fwrdd Lechyd Lleol
Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr
fydd yn agored i'r cyhoedd

Ddydd Iau 11 Mehefin 2009

am **2.30yp** yn adeilad

**Y Ganolfan Arloesi/The Innovations Centre
Technology Drive
Parc Gwyddoniaeth Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr
Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr CF31 3NA
CROESO CYNNES I BAWB**

Rydym yn croesawu gobieiaeth yn y Gymraeg a'r Saesneg. Os bydd angen cyfleusterau cyfieithu amoch yn y cyfarfod, byddwch gystal â rhoi gwybod i ni ymlaen llaw.

NATASHA HAS A LONG DAY AT THE CAR WASH!

PORTHCAWL car owners had a chance to get a wash and brush up recently, when Natasha Evans organised a charity car wash at the local fire station.

Natasha (35) is also looking for sponsorship for a 10-day trek to Machu Pichu.

The eventual beneficiary of her fundraising efforts will be the Firefighters' Charity – a cause close to her heart, as her partner, Peter Bevan, is a retained firefighter in the town.

For information on the charity, go to www.firefighterscharity.org.uk

Picture by KEITH E MORGAN

Gardens open for charity

AS part of the National open gardens scheme, four gardens in Newton village will be open on June 7 from 1pm-6pm.

The group of gardens are open to the public as part of the national initiative, which has raised more than £22 million for nursing, caring and gardening charities in the past decade.

The gardens of Llwynrhos, Newton Cottage, The Old Orchard and Tyn-y-Caeau Farm will be serving teas and refreshments throughout the day.

Plants will also be available to buy. A spokeswoman said: "Llwynrhos is the archetypal cottage garden. Clever planting along with intricate hard landscaping makes it an interesting garden with lots of inspiration."

"Newton Cottage is a large informal garden, its variety of borders, shrubs, climbers and herbaceous plants mean

it is a gardener's delight no matter what time of the year.

"The Old Orchard, has, as the name suggests a wide variety of fruit trees – and its June flowering roses mean it is a riot of colour at the time of the opening."

"A small herb and vegetable patch complete the scene."

"Tyn-Caeau Farm is a three-year-old garden, with a beautiful flower meadow and pond, giving a vantage point for the panoramic views over the Bristol Channel."

"Admission is £5 and includes entry to all four of the gardens. Children are admitted free."

"Cream teas, Pimms, and plants are also on sale," the spokeswoman concluded.



ABOVE:

The Porthcawl Mayor, Coun David Newton Williams, came along to show his support.

BELOW:

Porthcawl Fire Station Officer Dave King (second from left) with Natasha Evans (third from left), and the collection team.



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THE NEW MAYOR CALLS IN TO WISH SCHOOL COOK HAPPY RETIREMENT

COUN Jeff Tildesley, the new Mayor of Bridgend County Borough, together with his consort, Mrs Audrey Thomas, visited Corneli Primary School, at lunch time recently to make a presentation to Ann Owen, the head cook, who was retiring after being at the school for 28 years.

Following the presentation, the mayor and his consort were invited to stay for lunch, after which they visited the school library and computer centre.

Photographs by
KEITH E MORGAN



BELOW:
The catering staff at Corneli Primary School, with Ann Owen (centre).



LEFT: and ABOVE: The mayor and consort were shown around the library and computer centre by Jan Batrick, headteacher, Alex Clarke, senior learning support officer, and members of the school council. The school has recently carried out a big exercise on local history with emphasis on Kenfig Castle and the buried town.



ABOVE: The mayor being served lunch by Ann Owen. Also at the table are members of the School Council, with the Mayor's consort, Mrs Audrey Thomas, and Jane Down, chair of the school governors.



ABOVE:

Watched by Jan Batrick, headteacher, Jane Down, chair of the school governors, catering staff, and pupils - the Mayor, Coun Jeff Tildesley, presents an inscribed pen to Ann Owen, head cook (fifth from right) on the occasion of her retirement after 28 years. The children had already presented their own specially-written retirement cards.

'DON'T THROW ARTEFACTS AWAY'

AT its May meeting, Pontfaen Probus Club heard from Owain Rhys of the National Museum of Wales about his work as curator of contemporary life.

He is responsible for collecting and exhibiting 'modern' artefacts which reflect current Welsh life, and preserving those items for future generations.

Owain is in the process of updating

exhibits and said that rather than throwing items in the dustbin, members should consider presenting them to the museum.

However, he did acknowledge that storage of items was a problem: a perpetual curator's dilemma.

He is also closely involved with collating memories and recollections, such as accounts of recent rugby games between Wales and Canada, also memoirs of his uncle who was a

prisoner of war yet escaped twice from the Germans - and a history of Italians in Wales.

The next meeting of the club is at The Bear Hotel in Cowbridge on June 15, from 10-30am. The speaker is former Wales star, Paul

Thorburn, who will speak on 'A Life in Rugby'.

Guests are welcome at the meeting. Call David Crompton, the club's president, on 01446 751490. **LTG**

WE welcome your news, views and sports items. Please email them to the Editorial Department at: ggem@internet-today.co.uk

Biodiversity week events

BRIDGEND
County Borough Council is organising free events for Wales Biodiversity Week, which runs from June 6-14.

Events include a guided bat walk, evening bird watching and a mini

beast hunt! Coun John Spanswick, cabinet member for communities, said: "Parts of the local environment in Bridgend are regarded as internationally important."

"We have a mix of ancient woodland, wild

meadows, rivers, sand dunes and coastline and that makes for a diverse range of species, from unique fen orchids to medicinal leeches which have amazing healing properties."

Contact the council for full details.

Visit Ilfracombe • Take Part in the 'Steamer' Parade • aboard Paddle Steamer WAVERLEY

from Porthcawl Harbour
ILFRACOMBE • LUNDY ISLAND
Lynton & Barnstaple Railway
SUNDAY JUNE 14 Leave 10am back 10pm
Visit Ilfracombe - Glorious Devon £25.95 Or view the spectacular Exmoor Coast & visit Lundy Island - explore this enchanting National Trust island with spectacular views - seabirds - Church of St. Helena & Marisco Tavern. Inclusive fare £39 Or enjoy a trip aboard the Lynton & Barnstaple Railway in North Devon - one of the world's most famous & picturesque narrow gauge railways & visit Lymouth - the Switzerland of England. Inclusive fare £35

'STEAMER' PARADE
WEDNESDAY JUNE 17 Leave 12.15pm back 9pm
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YOUNG ACTING TALENT TRIES OUT FOR ROLES IN A CLASSIC MUSICAL

The Bridgend Youth Theatre will be performing the classic musical Gypsy as its summer show, so PHILIP IRWIN dropped in to watch part of the audition process – and discovered that it is a bit different from those Nancys or Josephs...

THANKS to Andrew Lloyd Webber's joint ventures with the BBC, we all know how the casting process for a musical works, don't we?

Tears and tantrums (and that's just the boys!). Sob stories about how a sick grandmother is hanging on in the hope of seeing the 'light of her life' in a major role on stage.

Not to mention over-the-top speeches about how they have dreamed all their life about this role, and that they were born to play it, and how it will transform their life if they land it.

When Roger Burnell gets the boys and girls of the Bridgend Youth Theatre (BYT) together to try out for a new show, it is all in a slightly lower key.

For a start, there are quite a few of the group who haven't seen the show, so the first task for Roger is to skim through a DVD, highlighting the main roles and pointing out the sort of routines. (See picture below).

Gypsy tells the story of Gypsy Rose Lee, the biggest star on the burlesque strip tease circuit, and it starts when she and her younger sister, June, find themselves in a vaudeville act put together by their mother, Rose – the ultimate pushy showbiz mum.

Although June is talented, Rose's limited imagination means that the sisters front a series of acts that are going nowhere. Vaudeville is on the slide and this showbiz family is going down the pan with it.

Besides, Louise (who will grow up to be Gypsy) is totally in the shadow of her more talented younger sister. No matter how bad things get, Rose is always convinced that good times are just around the corner.

Trailing in Rose's wake is poor old Herbie, her suitor, who puts up with more than his share of humiliations from Rose until he finally has enough.

To be fair, *Gypsy* is not a show that the boys can get too excited about. Herbie is the only main part (and he is a loser!), and there are three or four cameos as well.

For the girls, Rose dominates the show. June has some good song and dance numbers, and Louise, of course, gets the transformation into the glamorous and sophisticated Gypsy Rose Lee.

There are also three eye-catching roles for the girls, because the scene-stealing moment in the show is when Louise first encounters a house of burlesque, and meets three jaded strippers who sing 'You Gotta Get a Gimmick' – a number that never fails to stop the show.

There are two filmed versions of *Gypsy*. The original, with Rosalind Russell as Rose and Natalie Wood as Gypsy, and a version with Bette

Midler as Rose. Roger is showing the Bette Midler version, and when he gets to the strippers scene, one of the girls says: "The costumes are a bit....brief, aren't they?"

This is a surprise to me, as I've only seen the Natalie Wood version, where the costumes were quite chaste. However, when I check on screen it turns out that they are rather skimpy.

I get the impression that the boys will be arguing that they should stay faithful to the Bette Midler version.

Roger decides that 'You Gotta Get a Gimmick' is a good way to get the audition going, and his musical director, Mike Plowman, starts to take the girls through the song, concentrating on just the first verse.

First of all, the entire group of about 18 sing together, and gradually Roger puts them in groups of three or four. No one gets dropped, they carry on getting more used to the lyrics.

Slowly, we get to the stage when the girls are singing individually. This is where it gets interesting.

The first verse is sung by Miss Mazeppa, arguably the most jaded of the trio of strippers. Her gimmick is to play the trumpet. As she explains in the song, "If you're going to bump it, bump it with a trumpet!"

Now some of the girls have done their homework, and sing the lyrics in character, as a streetwise woman who has been around the block a few times.

However, some haven't, and it is quite weird to hear Miss Mazeppa's lines delivered in the style of someone auditioning for *High School Musical*.

I don't think that Roger is worried about this. What is remarkable about the group as a whole is how well they do accents – particularly American.

It was also surprising to find that some of the girls were quite nervous with the 'bump and grind' aspect of the routine. If you believe that all actors are extroverts, then watching the BYT girls auditioning is a surprise.

It takes a while to build up confidence in anything, whether it is sport, public speaking, or acting, and Roger Burnell has had years of spotting talent, and then giving the young person the confidence to do it on stage.

It was early stages in the audition process when *The GEM* visited, and it would take another week or two before casting was finalised.

Eventually, the lead role of Rose went to Charlotte Bruton, with Melissa Thomas as Gypsy. June will be played by Natasja Bryant.

Herbie will be played by Liam James

Finally, the three strippers will be Melanie Stevens, Christie Saunders and Rasheeda Ali.

Gypsy will be performed at The Grand Pavilion, Porthcawl, over three nights, July 23 - 25.

PHOTOGRAPHS ON THIS PAGE by JOE HOWE

LEFT: Sian Rowland (on the left) and Natasja Bryant play out a scene as star-struck young girls seeing their first 'real live theatre'.



RIGHT: Liam James tries out for the role of Herbie, with help from Chelsey Gillard.

BELOW: Rasheeda Ali (centre) was cast as one of the three burlesque artistes.



Christie Saunders has been cast in the show.



LEFT: Roger Burnell runs through key scenes with the cast. Melissa Thomas, who has been cast as Gypsy, is seated, just left of the laptop. The young man to her right is clearly impressed by the strippers' costumes.



TOP CHARITY VOLUNTEER WHO READ IT IN THE GEM

GEM reader Marlene Wheeldon of Llantwit Major has a special reason for supporting National Volunteer Week (June 1-7) as a volunteer for Marie Curie Cancer Care.

Marlene, who has a daughter and two grandsons is originally from Shrewsbury. She has lived in Llantwit Major for 10 years, after she and husband Frank moved around the UK throughout their working lives.

They had lived in Llantwit many years previously before deciding to come back to the Vale to enjoy their retirement.

Marlene, a keen gardener and a member of the Llantwit Major Pantomime Society, read an article in The GEM last November advertising an opportunity to set up a fundraising group to raise funds for The Marie Curie hospice, at Penarth.

She recalls: "I read the piece in the paper, turned to Frank and said

"I can do that".

Within hours, she had rustled up a small but trustworthy group of friends, gave Frank strict instructions to call the local fundraising office where he spoke to Karen Jones, the fundraising manager to arrange a date for the ladies to come along to the hospice.

Within a couple of weeks, the newly-formed Llantwit Major fundraising group were up and running; they arranged their first event-a coffee morning, which raised close to £800.

Marie Curie Cancer Care is the main charity that she supports, referring the hospice in Penarth as 'a wonderful, peaceful place.

After personal experiences with cancer, it is a cause that deeply touches her heart. A close friend was cared for and sadly passed away at the hospice just over two years ago.

She cannot speak highly enough of the care her friend received whilst there, calling the



Marlene in her garden.

nurses who looked after her 'such special people'.

Since November 2008 the group have successfully organised two coffee mornings raising more than £1,000 for the hospice. The ladies have also taken part in street collections during the Great Daffodil Appeal.

The group are currently organising their next project which will take place on June 20, when the ladies are dressing up as milk maids for the Victorian fayre day in Llantwit town centre.

FUTUROLOGISTS have a tough job trying to predict developments in IT (Information Technology) but it never stops them trying.

Normally, we hear about the ones they got right while the failed dreams are quietly buried. Peter is made of sterner stuff. Before he embarked upon an update of progress to members of Penarth Computer Club, he examined the predictions he made on previous visits.

In 2002, he was working in product development for a mobile phone company. He bought and tested any relevant new

product and the department he ran was known as 'The Playpen'. He was able to let members handle the first camera phones in the country.

In spite of some scepticism on their part, he assured members that camera-phones would be popular and use would spread dramatically. Was he right?

Last year, there were 553 million picture messages in the UK alone. That's 1,500,000 each day. He claimed a big tick for that prediction! Granted.

In 2007, he told us about the digital revolution about to explode. BT were launching a fully digital phone service with Wick, in the Vale, being the first in the world.

Half of the UK would be covered by 2009. It would be a quiet revolution if all went smoothly as planned. Quiet it was. A revolution it wasn't.

What happened? Nothing. Everything became too difficult or too expensive. On that prediction he gave himself a big fat Zero! Also granted.

As he had scored 50 per cent, Peter suggested that everything else he was about to say should be taken with an appropriately sized pinch of salt. (If only others could be so modest!)

He then talked about the six big technologies that would decide what the future holds.

Displays are improving all the time and high definition is bringing more and better information to everyone. No problem there.

Memory is becoming cheaper and more compact. As a result, inexpensive memory is finding its way into more and more product around the home and into everyday items. The physical size

of transistors and the connections between them is shrinking and more of them can be packed into a progressively smaller space.

For years, the price of a processor has stayed the same while the memory capacity and speed has doubled every 18 to 24 months. Phones can also operate as MP3 players and provide games to play. They cost around £100 and hold 8Gb of memory.

By 2027, says Peter, the same money will buy you a device with 65,000Gb and be able to hold as much music as you could listen to in a lifetime.

The processor itself is getting the same benefits as memory so will become as powerful as any of today's personal computers by about 2020.

The battery he described as the Achilles heel in all this development. They might hold things back. However, 'beltway' batteries are being tried. If they work, it could be possible to

recharge a battery in seconds rather than hours.

Connections will always be necessary and work is under way to improve the wireless connections and to 'roll out' fibre optics to allow faster and expanding digital traffic.

Keyboard input will be supplemented by other methods such as Touch-screens, Accelerometers; Tilt meters, Global Positioning Systems and more.

Then the members were treated to a run-through of the sorts of things that form part of the great wave of change that is already under way. More about that next time.

Penarth Computer Club next meets on Tuesday, June 9 at 7.30pm in All Saints Lesser Hall, Victoria Square, Penarth. Mike

will talk about home video - shooting, editing and showing.

Visitors and new members are welcome. For more information telephone 029 2070 8439.

Call for volunteers

DURING Volunteers' Week (June 1-7) the Prince's Trust Cymru is urging local residents to help young people turn their lives around.

The youth charity is seeking volunteers from all ages and backgrounds to help its business programme.

This was launched last year in Wales by Prince Charles and

helps unemployed 18-30-year-olds who are struggling to get their foot on the career ladder.

One young person who has benefited from the business programme is Darren Rees, 23, from Cowbridge. He has been given a grant to help him get his web design business, Firebox UK Ltd, off the ground, which will help other companies make their websites easier to use.

Darren said: "I had begun to give up hope of being able to pursue a career in web design and had even worked in a kitchen for a year - just to make ends meet.

"I'm extremely grateful to the Prince's Trust for all the support they have given me to enable me to start my own web design business in Cowbridge."

Anyone interested in volunteering for the trust can call 01443 685685.

Vale Magistrates Court

NICHOLAS COLIN HARBIN (22) of Elizabeth Avenue, Barry, admitted damaging a car and assaulting a woman on March 25 in the town.

He was given a conditional discharge for six months, ordered to pay compensation of £210.71, fined £50 and told to pay £15 costs.

YOUSSEF BENJAMIN WOOLCOCK (25) of Laura Street, Barry, admitted possession of a quantity of amphetamine, and cannabis resin, both Class B drugs.

He was fined £65 and told to pay costs of £15. The drugs will be destroyed.

DEAN ANTHONY THOMAS (26) of Gateholm Close, Barry, admitted drink driving in the town on May 4.

Magistrates heard that he was driving a Vauxhall Astra along Barry docks Link Road when he was stopped, and a breath sample showed 72 micro-

grammes of alcohol in 100 millilitres of breath. He was sent to prison for four months, because it is a fifth offence in 10 years.

Magistrates ordered a four-year ban from driving.

DAVID THOMAS GRUNEWALD of Hill Crest, Brynna, Llanharan, was found guilty of carrying out farriery in October 2008 when not registered properly under the 1975

act. He was fined £250, and must pay costs of £750 and £15.

CHRISTOPHER JOHN HARDY (19) of Bullfinch Road, St Athan, admitted damaging a glass pane window on April 8.

He was given a conditional discharge for six months.

Magistrates ordered him to pay compensation of £100, and told him to pay £60 court costs.

JORDAN LEE HALL (22) of Sandycote Terrace, Bradford, admitted damaging the shop doorway of Royal Café in Barry on May 18.

He was fined £200, and must pay court costs of £80.

Rockie (and Swift) need a home

The GEM has joined forces with the Dogs Trust to find caring new owners for animals at its Bridgend Rehoming Centre (Telephone 01656 725219)

THIS week, a spokeswoman at the rehoming centre highlights Rockie, a three-year-old Boxer-cross, and Swift, a Whippet-cross.

"Rockie is a super lad, who is very friendly and lots of fun. He absolutely adores his food and his toys, and is also very affectionate and enjoys a cuddle.

"He is suitable with children aged around eight years and over, as he is quite big and bouncy, and he may be OK with younger children if they are robust and used to dogs.

"Rockie would like a family home, with owners who have some experience of dogs.

"He will make a really entertaining and rewarding companion."

Rockie and some of his friends are on the trust website, at www.dogstrust.org.uk, (click on Rehoming).



ROCKIE.

"Swift is an eight-month-old Whippet Cross. She is a lovely young dog, and is very friendly, and likes spending time with other dogs.

"She can be a little bit sensitive at times, as she lacks confidence, so she will enjoy continued socialising along with her further basic training to build up her confidence.

"She is very lively, so she will need an active owner who can give her plenty of exercise. She is suitable with children aged eight years and over who are used to dogs.

"She can live with other dogs, but we are not sure what she's like with cats. She'll suit

someone who has owned dogs before."

If you would like more information on Rockie, Swift - or any of the other dogs who are looking for a good home, visit the Dogs Trust Rehoming Centre in Court Colman, Pen-y-Fai, Bridgend, or telephone 01656 725219.



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'More to the Gurkhas' issue than well-meaning campaigners realise'

THE question of the right of Gurkha ex-servicemen to resettlement in the UK has become an emotive and, sadly, a political matter.

The natural sense of fair play will have directed the average Briton to unquestionably support the Gurkhas' rights, and nearly all of the letters published in your columns fully bear this out.

The bandwagon fronted by Joanna Lumley has gained considerable momentum. But is the matter as straightforward as it might appear?

Firstly, let us take a look at the background to the Gurkhas' association with the British Army.

During the period of British rule in India, it was only natural that our army of occupation should seek reliable reinforcements from a more local source.

What could be more convenient than to call upon the little men from India's near neighbour Nepal; and what more natural than that the man from this warrior nation should seek to improve his lot by offering his services?

But the Gurkha did not come as a ready-made soldier. He was simply the raw material from which a fully-trained soldier could be made. In fact, he was a mercenary.

The rejection rate from the hundreds of volunteers was extremely high. But once accepted, the Gurkha soldier would be highly honoured in his native village and when he returned, his small pension would be one of comparative riches.

But whatever his fighting qualities, in any action he has

always been led by British officers of exceptional leadership ability.

I was privileged to serve during World War II as part of a fine Indian Division, which included Gurkhas, and I have seen them from what they are; disciplined, courageous, adaptable, and unquestionably loyal to their adopted queen and country.

In North Africa and Italy, where I served, there were three Indian Infantry divisions, each with three battalions of 1,000 Gurkhas, making a total of 9,000 in this theatre alone.

I have no idea how many were serving in the far east, but it is safe to assume that this number could at least be doubled and possibly trebled. Say a minimum of 20,000 in all.

If given the right to settle in this country, although few would ever have visited these shores, all of these would be eligible.

But of course like their British counterparts, age has taken its toll. Nevertheless, there must be several thousand aged Gurkhas still surviving who would qualify for resettlement here.

They must have the same rights as those who have been based in our country and who have served in more recent conflicts.

But why stop at the Gurkhas? What about the thousands of Indians who served alongside them in the defence of this country?

To a Gurkha's family, from a mountain village somewhere in the Himalayas, life in Britain would be as unnatural as life on the moon.

It is also a fact that those Gurkhas who have served in this country since World War II have

themselves not really experienced civilian life here either.

The Army is largely a closed community. They will have been mainly pre-occupied with training camps and ceremonial duties based in barracks.

So before joining the protest, the well-meaning but mostly ignorant people of our country would do well to consider the implications.

These overcrowded islands are already trying to assimilate groups of people from other nations, who have no intention of becoming part of our culture and who are placing ever-increasing demands to meet their own perceived rights.

The acceptance of the Gurkha soldier's right to residence here would create just such another community with similar rights and demands.

Joanna Lumley's campaign may be entirely sincere, but does it really owe anything to reality? Would resettlement in the British Isles be fair either to the Gurkha families or to our nation as a whole? Surely there must be some way to reward their service to our country?

It is not a simple matter of fair play. Having just returned from what will possibly be my last visit to the British and Commonwealth cemetery in Cassino in Italy where I paid my tribute, with other veterans, to the large section of Gurkha dead there, I am probably able to appreciate the value of the Gurkha more than most of your correspondents. However, that doesn't prevent me from seeing the difficulties that settlement here might pose.

JIM MORGAN,
Llantwit Major

Barrians who served in Second World War to be honoured in exhibition

THIS September sees the 70th anniversary of the start of the Second World War, that enormous conflict which claimed the lives of 370,000 Britons.

Events will be held the length and breadth of the United Kingdom, and Barry will play its part in commemorating the sacrifice made, and the service given, by its men and women all those years ago.

To remember the role that the people of Barry and the surrounding areas played in the defeat of Germany and Japan, local military historian Dr Jonathan Hicks will be staging a two-week long exhibition at Arts Central in Barry Library.

Dr Hicks says: "On display in Arts Central will be the material I have collected over the past few years on the role that Barrians played

in the Second World War. I have interviewed military, naval and air force veterans, civilians who experienced the bombing of Barry and have spoken with merchant seamen sunk by German u-boats.

"As a result, I have numerous photographs and written accounts, which will form the basis of a thought-provoking display that will be of great interest to the people of Barry."

"Thousands of local people attended the two large scale exhibitions at Barry Memorial Hall in 2007 and 2008, on the role that Barrians played in the two world wars of the last century."

Both were extremely successful and raised funds for the upkeep of Barry's Roll of Honour.

"The display at Arts Central will allow me to display the whole range of information I have collected, and for a longer period than just a one-day exhibition."

"Barry, as we are all aware, is a town without a museum. There is no venue for a permanent display of such material and with this important anniversary fast approaching it is incumbent on us to commemorate the courage that male and female Barrians showed during those years."

"The Second World War is also part of the national curriculum in primary and secondary schools, so the opportunity to teach our children what happened from 1939-1945 as it affected Barry and Barrians should not be missed."

The following sec-

tions will be displayed: The RAF, The Army, The Royal Navy, The Merchant Navy, Women's Contribution, The Barry Blitz.

"The exhibition will open on Saturday, September 12, and will run for two weeks. I will be in attendance on Saturdays and very much look forward to engaging with the public and collecting yet more stories," Dr Hicks added.

He expressed his gratitude to Tracey Harding, arts development manager of the Vale Council, for facilitating this exhibition.

Brooke Hospital coffee morning
THE Brooke Hospital for Animals' Vale supporters' group will hold a coffee morning on Thursday, June 11, from 10.30am-12.30pm, at Llantrithyd House, Llantrithyd.

Entry £2.50, including coffee and biscuits; home produce, cake stall, raffle. Proceeds go to the Brooke Hospital for Animals.

Contact Alex Rees on 01446 781286, or Joy Rees on 01446 781955 for further details.

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Mae'r drafodaeth datganoli, wedi ei gynnal gan Confensiwn Cymru Gyfan, ar fin cyrraedd Bro Morgannwg i glywed barn pobl am bwerau deddfu Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru yn y dyfodol.

Mae Confensiwn yn gorff cwbl annibynnol a diduedd, o dan gadeiryddiaeth Syr Emyr Jones Parry. Cafodd ei sefydlu i ddadansoddi'r dadleuon o blaid ac yn erbyn pwerau ychwanegol i'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol. Mae'r ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus nawr ar agor.

Dywedodd Syr Emyr Jones Parry, Cadeirydd Confensiwn Cymru Gyfan, "Mae hwn yn gyfle i bobl Bro Morgannwg ymuno yn y drafodaeth ar ddatganoli. Mae'n bwysig bod pawb yn cael dweud eu dweud. Rydyn ni yma i wrando, pr'un ai yr ydych o blaid neu yn erbyn cael pwerau deddfu pellach i'r Cynulliad. Dewch i fynegi eich barn."

The devolution debate, hosted by the All Wales Convention, is set to visit the Vale of Glamorgan to sound people out about their opinions on future law-making options for the National Assembly for Wales.

The Convention is a totally independent and impartial body, chaired by Sir Emyr Jones Parry. It was established to analyse the arguments for, and against, extra powers for the National Assembly. The public consultation is now open.

Sir Emyr Jones Parry, Chair of the All Wales Convention, said, "This is a chance for the people of the Vale of Glamorgan to join in the devolution debate. It's important everyone gets his or her voice heard. We're here to listen, whether opinions are in favour of more law-making powers for the Assembly or against it. Come and tell us what you think."

Cynhelir grŵp trafod ar ddydd Mercher, 10 Mehefin yng Nghanolan Gymunedol Parc Fictoria yn Y Barri rhwng 2pm-4pm. Dewch draw i ddarganfod mwy. Mae croeso i bawb ac mae pob barn yn ddilys.

A discussion group will be held on **Wednesday 10 June** in **Victoria Park Community Centre, Barry** between 2-4pm. Come along and find out more. Everyone is welcome and every viewpoint is valid.

Ceir rhagor o wybodaeth am Gonfensiwn Cymru Gyfan ar www.confensiwncymrugyfan.org. Ceir gwybodaeth am sut i fynychu'r digwyddiadau cyhoeddus ar y wefan neu drwy ffonio'r llinell wybodaeth digwyddiadau ar 029 2069 4997.

More information on the All Wales Convention can be found at www.allwalesconvention.org

Information on attending the public events can be found on the website or by calling the events hotline on 029 2069 4997.

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VALE MP FIGHTS FOR HIS REPUTATION AFTER EXPENSES ALLEGATIONS

VALE MP John Smith is under attack after a newspaper story alleging that he had claimed almost £58,000 over four years, without submitting receipts.

The allegation related to Mr Smith's Additional Costs Allowance (ACA), which covers the extra costs incurred by an MP as a result of living in London.

MPs typically claim between £20,000 and £23,000 on this account, and Mr Smith is no exception.

The Telegraph, which is in possession of a leaked CD, wrote that he was paying rent of "up to £560" per month – but had produced no other receipts for the four years from 2004/05 to 2007/08.

Instead, it was alleged that Mr Smith had produced monthly 'round figures' for food (£400), cleaning (£250), telephone bills (£250), and utility bills (£250).

The allegations led to a call from the Plaid Cymru candidate for the Vale, Dr Ian Johnson, that Mr Smith should step down as an MP. (Mr

Smith has already indicated that he will not be defending his seat at the next general election on health grounds).

Dr Johnson said: "I was flabbergasted to discover that John Smith had claimed nearly £60,000 in four years without putting forward a receipt, using a loophole to claim the maximum that required no proof of actual expenditure."

"This is just two weeks after he told the local papers in Barry that he 'never exploited the system of MPs' allowances'."

"He has already made the choice to step down at the next general election, but this news means that he must leave the job immediately, rather than hanging on as a lame duck for up to another year."

The GEM contacted Mr Smith's office and asked five questions.

1/ Does Mr Smith dispute the claim that he submitted no receipts during the four-year period?

2/ Mr Smith had a cost advantage by choosing to rent and not buy. It was £5,000 – £6,000 cheaper per year.

REPORT by PHILIP IRWIN

However, by the end of the year, he ends up spending as much on his ACA as other MPs. Any comment?

3/ Has he claimed round figures each month on things like food and cleaning? What about when the house is in recess?

4/ When he publishes the accounts, will that include the Additional Costs Allowance, the Incidental Expenses Provision, and Communications Allowance?

5/ Mr Smith's statement refers to "inaccuracies" in the Telegraph report. Can you give any details on that?

Mr Smith issued the following statement and at his request, we are printing this in full:

His spokesman stated: "Mr Smith is devastated and repudiates allegations that he has exploited the parliamentary expenses system following an article in the Sunday Telegraph, which has appeared since he announced his retirement on health grounds two weeks ago."

"Historically, Mr Smith has been one of the lowest claimants of parliamentary expenses. He does not own a second home, he has never claimed for any luxury goods and all the money he has claimed over the years has gone towards meeting the cost of living and working in London and not for personal gain."

"Mr Smith is committed to transparency and will publish his expenses in full, as soon as is practicable."

The statement continued:

"A number of allegations were made in the Sunday Telegraph which he did not have an opportunity to respond to."

"Mr Smith was accused of claiming Additional Cost Allowance between 2004 and 2008 without submitting receipts."

"Under the rules at the time, no receipts were required and all Mr Smith's claims were cleared by the Commons authority and were within the existing rules."

"Contrary to what

was alleged in the newspaper article, in July 2007, when the Commons authority wrote to Mr Smith informing him that he could no longer continue to claim in this way, he immediately changed his claims to meet the new requirements."

"In April 2008, Mr Smith moved to an unfurnished bedsit in Pimlico and purchased some modestly-priced items of furniture, including a table and two chairs and a sofa bed, and submitted receipts as required under further rule changes."

"Not all the items on the receipts referred to in the newspaper article were claimed for."

"Contrary to what was said in the Telegraph, it is untrue that Mr Smith submitted a bill for legal costs over a dispute with the landlord over his constituency office. In actual fact, this was a standard commercial charge for drawing up a lease."

"It seems that political opponents in the Vale are trying to damage Mr Smith's reputation by linking the timing of his retirement announce-

ment with the expenses furore."

"Nothing could be further from the truth – Mr Smith has been advised by his doctor not to stand for re-election and he is following that advice."

WHAT'S ON

Vineyard opens to public

THE Glyndwr Vineyard and garden at Llanblethian will be open to the public under the National Garden Scheme on Sunday (June 7) at 2pm-6pm.

It will be providing teas, proceeds of which go to Diabetes UK, and llamas are an added visitor attraction!

For further information, telephone 01446 774564.

Charity concert

THERE will be a concert in aid of Cancer Research UK by Cardiff Bach Choir, in All Saints Church, Penarth, on Saturday, June 13, at 7.30pm.

Tickets are available from members of the choir, the Cancer Research shop in Penarth and at the door on the night, price £7.

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GEM reporter goes on the trail of 007 in Barry

THE name's Isaac – JAYNE ISAAC...and I carried out an undercover assignment for The GEM (not 'M') recently.

My mission was to attend the James Bond Gala night held at the Mount Sorrel Hotel in Barry. Guests were greeted by the sight of a fantastic navy blue Aston Martin DB9 parked in the drive. It even had an 007 number plate – although in this case an added zero made it treble 0 rather than double 0.

The car belonged to Cardiff businessman Gary, who was there with his partner Lynne. He was asked to bring the car along to add to the 'Bondness' of the event.

Everyone joined in the spirit of the night with the men in tuxedos and the women dressed to kill – rather than licensed to do so!

There was even one man with a sinister air who stroked a white toy cat throughout the evening!

Everyone was welcomed with a martini cocktail – shaken not stirred of course – and we all got into the mood with Bond film themes played on the sound system and Bond posters all over the walls. The dining room was beautifully decorated and each table had a theme.

From Russia with Love had a bottle of Smirnoff and a Russian doll, while *Octopussy* had a large glass bowl with an octopus in it – not a real one!

Dr Bob, aka Bob Armstrong, who has a shop in Barry, helped decorate the room

and provided all the balloons – mostly gold to add that *Goldfinger* touch to the event.

The meal was fabulous – with all the courses also themed.

There was an *Octopussy* starter of seafood, including octopus and crab. The main course was Licence to Roast with a choice of beef, pork or a vegetarian option and the dessert was appropriately named *Die another Day* – it was a chocolate box of Belgian chocolate mousse and chocolate caramel, plus a fresh strawberry dipped in chocolate and decorated with a hint of gold.

During the meal, there was entertainment from close up magician Andrew Richards, (real name Andrew Ware) who dazzled everyone with his sleight of hand.

There was also a disco with Paul Grayson and a touch of *Casino Royale* provided by Sean Smith of Hire 4, who set up a roulette table and blackjack which people could play for fun – all adding to the ambience.

Indeed, the only thing missing was a downhill ski sequence or the obligatory underwater encounter with a shark!

The event was well supported with many of the High Street traders and other business people in Barry attending.

A raffle with some stunning Bond-themed prizes – including a signed picture of Bond girl Caroline Munro – was organised with the proceeds going to Cancer Research UK.

In case you're wondering, she was the

helicopter pilot in *The Spy who Loved Me* who got blown up with a missile from Bond's underwater car! The event was organised by new manager Julie Bannon, who took over the hotel at Christmas.

"I wanted to add some extra sparkle to the hotel and I thought that this was the best way to do it. This is my first event since I arrived and I am delighted. It was a lot of hard work but I hope we have attracted people who would not normally come here.

"It was an ambitious event to stage, but I hope we pulled it off."

She thanked head chef Nigel Tutton and Sous chef Mark Tait and said that the food had received nothing but compliments.

"We devised the menu together and it seemed to work. I wanted a wow factor and I think we got it."

Jeff Brown, who is chairman of the Barry branch of Cancer Research, said that the raffle raised £340 and he thanked Julie and the hotel for their hard work.

Julie added: "Everyone has had a good time and I hope this is the first of many themed nights. There was also a very supportive response from the people of Barry and that was great."

Julie thanked all the staff for their hard work and welcomed the new assistant manager Bethan Osborne.

Julie is now planning other themed events, including an Elvis night on July 4, with a strong American theme.

In September, she is staging a *Mamma Mia* night with an Abba tribute band.

Centenarian off on his travels, thanks to Age Concern charity



Mr Sidney Yates and his daughter Shirley holding the Age Concern banner, with the charity's staff.

AT the age of 100, a Barry pensioner has helped Age Concern celebrate 25 years of providing specialist products and financial services to older people in Wales.

Mr Sidney Yates shrugged off his age and recently travelled to Germany with his daughter Shirley – with the protection of special medical cover and travel insurance provided by the charity.

"Age Concern developed a trading arm, known as Age Concern Enterprises (ACEnt), 25 years ago to make sure vulnerable older people in Wales had the same rights as other age groups when applying for products such as insurance and

legal services," a spokesman explained. The charity's services had since expanded to provide older people with life cover, home

and car insurance, gas and electricity supplies, financial and legal advice, personal safety alarms, travel insurance, and funeral plans.



ABOVE: Mr Yates talking with George Burke.

Scope community volunteers get a 'Tidy' boost

A BID by Scope Community Action Volunteers to improve the local environment has been given a boost – thanks to a cash injection by environmental organisation Keep Wales Tidy.

Scope Community Action Volunteers are a group of adults who attend the Skills Development Centre at Sully, near Penarth.

The centre is open from Monday-Friday and provides activities for adults with learning and/or physical disabilities.

On Thursdays, a group of volunteers for community activities such as litter picking, hedge trimming

or other gardening activities.

"The group desperately needed new tools such as litter pickers, loppers and some of the participants needed new wellington boots and gloves. The grant has enabled us to buy all of the equipment needed," a spokeswoman explained.

Through the Tidy Towns Project, Keep Wales Tidy offers financial assistance to community groups who have demonstrated a commitment to restoring their communities to their former glory.

This is made possible by funding from the Welsh Assembly Government local environmental quality fund.

What's on IN BRIEF

Street surgeries for Highlight Park

DYFAN PCSO Mandy Michael will be holding street surgeries, using the Vale Council's mobile library on Friday, June 12, when she will be available to meet local residents at Highlight Park.

The mobile library will be at the following locations: Lakin Drive East (2pm-2.30pm); Lakin Drive West, opposite Beaumont Close (2.35pm-3pm); Highlight Lane, at junction of Oakfield Road (3.05pm-4pm).

Imps' ball

CADOXTON Imps AFC are holding a summer ball on Saturday, June 13, at the Masonic Hall, Broad Street, Barry, at 7.30pm.

There will be a three-course dinner, entertainment and disco.

Full details from club chairman Martin Purshall on 01446 722299, or secretary Gary Spierling on 01446 407591.

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Niki 01446 740394
Cowbridge - 10.00am
The Duke of Wellington
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Lina 01656 890708
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and Llanover Street
Lorraine 01446 407002
Penarth - 6.30pm
Elfed Avenue Methodist Church
Elfed Road
Kat 01446 401833
Rhoose - 6.30pm
Celtic Way Community Centre
Celtic Way
Helen 01446 750738
TUESDAY
Barry - 5.45pm
Market Street Social Club
Upstairs Function Room
Joanne 01446 404897
Barry - 4.30pm & 6.30pm
St. Davids Methodist Church Hall,
Winston Road
Kat 01446 401833

Llantwit Major - 4.45 & 6.45pm
Old School,
Wine Street
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Sully - 6.30pm
The Old School,
South Road
Niki 01446 740394
WEDNESDAY
Barry - 4.45 & 6.45pm
St. Francis
Millennium Centre
Park Road,
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Seconds Up is famous for.

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The new nightwear range is a big hit, with prices starting from £3.99 for basic night-shirts.

All the classics are covered, from classic housecoats to funky, light, soft jersey wraps.

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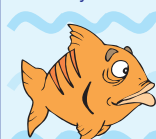
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Road is now 60 years late

IN the GEM on May 28, there was an article about the airport access road, costing £2.2 million.

When we moved to Howmill in 1947, we were told to expect the council to take over land to widen the road from Cowbridge to St Athan, as this was planned before the war when they built St Athan.

How long will it take to build the road to Rhoebe? The Cowbridge-St Athan road is not built yet!

Mrs Whitton, Cowbridge

What's wrong with first past the post?

FIND it very disquieting that the European elections will be checked by 'proportional representation' and not 'first past the post', as is the case with other elections in this country.

Our present method of voting means that our choice of members' name is the one that counts, whereas propor-

tional representation, as I understand it, means that your preference is added to another named candidate to make up the numbers - so that you may not get the person you voted for to represent you.

Italy had proportional representation for 50 years, with elections almost yearly, but have now changed back to a system similar to our own.

Mrs DE Coombes
Herridge, Barry

Word lost in translation?

YOUR recent correspondent who wrote about the song 'Lili Marlene', may be interested to know that the song was originally written for two girls - Lili and Marlene. No doubt the 'and' was dropped in the translation.

D Lewis, Barry

Vale Council backed on development call

THE Vale Council's call for development plans north of Cardiff to be put on the back burner, has won the support of Alun Cairns AM.

The Vale Council has instructed officers to write to Cardiff City Council, urging them to defer consideration of a new business park, on land north of Junction 33 of the M4.

Mr Cairns, who is Conservative parliamentary candidate for the Vale, said he was backing Vale planners who want a development blueprint for the whole area considered in detail before this scheme comes up for approval.

VALE PACT MEETINGS

WENVOE PACT, Wenvoe Community Hall, June 8, 7.30pm.

COWBRIDGE coffee and chat, The Bush Inn, St Hilary, June 16, 11am.

SULLY PACT, Stanwell Comprehensive School, June 19.

A close-run defeat for Cadoxton Ladies bowlers in Llantwit Major game

THE evening league match against Dinas Powys at Cadoxton had to be abandoned.

A correspondent writes: The ladies battled on during persistent heavy drizzle, but after playing

eight ends, the decision was made to play the remaining seven ends at a later date.

The Thursday afternoon league was played on May 30 at Llantwit Major.

Rink one - Cadoxton - A Rees, J Pycroft, P Currie, D Davies 12; Llantwit - L Crouch, B Lewis, P Pike, E Nichols 16.

Cadoxton started the game strongly by winning four shots on the first end. Llantwit scored on the next six ends. The ladies didn't score again until the eighth, but they did well, winning seven of the next eight ends. However, the singles were not enough to win the game.

Rink two - Cadoxton - M Paterson, C Bentley, N Clissett, P Cox 15; Llantwit - K Jones, C Davies, A Matthew, M Davies 12.

Congratulations to Cadoxton, the only rink to gain points from this match. The ladies opened well, winning the first four ends.

In an exciting finish, the score being equal, Cadoxton picked up the last two ends to win the game.

Rink three - Cadoxton - P Bryant, M Snee, D Evans, J Tuck 15; Llantwit - E Hardy, V Hill, Val B, M Lewis 28.

The scoring was even up to the 10th end, then Llantwit made a mighty six-shot gain.

Cadoxton fought back and gained five shots on the next two ends but were unable to keep it up. Llantwit took the last two ends for four shots each to seal the win.

Final score: Cadoxton 42 Llantwit 56.

Congratulations to Marian Martin and Dot Davies on winning their first match in the Glamorgan Women's Bowling Pairs competition. Best wishes for the next round.

The Guide Dogs for the Blind charity quiz and raffle yielded £560.50.

A huge thank you to all the bowling ladies who helped with the event. All prizes have been distributed and a list of prizes/winners is available by phoning 01446 407438.

Special thanks to Gwyneth and Nigel, Mike and Eileen for taking part in the Mr and Mrs Quiz.

Seniors claim charity shield

ON May 21, the challenge was on between the Cottrell Park ladies and the men's senior section for the charity shield.

The weather was kind and every one enjoyed the golf and lunch.

The seniors were victorious and retained the shield: £300 was raised and divided between the captains' charities, Bridgend Samaritans and GLAZE (prostate cancer charity).

The picture below shows Margaret Thomas, ladies' captain, presenting the shield to Alan Crossley, the seniors captain.



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Defeat puts Stags in trouble at the bottom of the league

IAN GADD'S Barry Athletic CC First XI played host to division two surprise package, Creigiau CC, at the Barry Oval.

Barry skipper, Ian Gadd, won the toss and elected to bat first.

Things were going nicely for the Stags. At 102-2 with 20 overs remaining, they looked set for a big score.

However, the 'achilles heel' of the bat-

ting order was exposed again as wickets fell cheaply in the middle order.

There was some resistance from Lee Morgan (with a highly respectable 70), Harshvar Deo (29) and Anjan Ganapathy (24).

However, the Stags were dismissed cheaply for 170.

D Martin was the star of the show with the ball for Creigiau, with 4-39.

After the mid-session interval, the Stags entered the field hoping to defend their total.

However, the Creigiau batsmen dominated the attack from start to finish as boundaries were hit to all areas of the field.

Batsmen, Tom Lloyd (77 n/o) and D. Williams (54), looked to put the result beyond all doubt, as Creigiau hit the 171 target in the 35th over.

Barry bowlers Steve Jones (1-35) and Andrew Buckland (1-15) did give the Stag faithful something to cheer about by snatching a wicket each.

Barry First XI need to start improving or they may end up battling for survival in the South Wales cricket league.

Barry First XI travel to Ponthir CC on Saturday, hoping for a first win in four matches.

SECOND XI FALL SHORT
MARTIN BAKER'S Barry Second XI travelled to Brecon to face a newly promoted Brecon CC.

This was previously labelled as a 'must win' game. However, casualties in the week meant that only a weakened team was available.

A very hot day saw Brecon win the toss and elect to bat first.

Top class bowling from Forhad Ahmed and Simon Phillips restricted them to below 70 runs in their first 20 overs.

Performances from Ashley Baker (1-32 from nine overs) and bowler of the match, Richie Roberts (3-9 from five overs) ensured the Stags had a fighting chance in the second innings, restricting Brecon to 195-9 from their 50 overs.

After the interval, Barry were ready to chase down 196 runs for victory. Damon Leake led the attack with a fine batting display and he rarely made a wrong move as Barry steered closer and closer to the 196 target.

Leake, along with Billy Usswald, took the game to the Brecon bowling attack, firing the Stags to 127-2 from 30 overs.

Barry looked in touching distance of recording their first win of the campaign. However, Brecon struck gold when a flourish of wickets were taken, including Leake, for a well-earned 72, and Usswald, for 43.

Barry were struggling at 164-6, and despite a late flourish from Richie Roberts and Peter Davies, Barry fell 19 runs short and were bowled out for 176.

Barry Second XI are yet to record a win this season, and are now looking candidates for the drop.

This Saturday sees the Stags entertain fellow relegation battlers, Ponthir CC, in a bid to catch up with the teams above them.

THIRD XI WIN AT LAST

In the absence of Barry Third XI skipper, Cesc Andre, the team travelled to Ponthir CC, hoping to put last week's nightmare of a game behind them.

Stand in skipper Simon Phillips lost the toss and was made to field first. The pitch was prematurely described as a batsman's paradise and runs were expected from both sides.

The first innings was dominated by the young Stag bowling attack, including Callum Twomey (2-20), Ashley Baker (2-11), Ben Eastman (2-11) and bowler of the match, Richie Roberts, who recorded figures of 4-14 from eight overs which included a maiden.

A fantastic performance from the leg-spinners, along with the other bowlers and the fielding, exemplified by Jophin

Reji's three catches, helped the Stags to another top class display, bowling Ponthir for a less than impressive 102 in 38.2 overs.

An inspirational display in the field was matched by the display in the batting.

Despite some early scares, Barry held on with help from Simon Phillips (43) and his vice-captain, Andrew Buckland (22 n/o).

This, along with help from the extras column, ensured Barry Third XI's first win of the 2009 campaign, hitting 103-4 in 30.4 overs.

A massive win for the Stags saw them claim the maximum 20 points, compared to Ponthir's four points.

With no midweek match, the next opposition for the Stags is Aberdare CC, which will be played on Sunday (June 7).

AB

Penarth Horticultural Society

THE next meeting of Penarth Horticultural Society will take place on Tuesday, June 9, at 7.15pm, in Elfed Avenue United Church Hall, when the speaker will be Gerry Donovan, project manager at Dyffryn Gardens. The talk is titled 'Update of the restoration of Dyffryn'. Non members will be welcomed. Admission 50p.

Romilly take SVLA shield

BARRY Romilly Bowling Club 'A' team travelled to Llantwit Major for the final game in the SVLA Shield tournament.

On a fine sunny day, Romilly won the match and the tournament.

Bob Wyatt's rink of J Jones, D Knight and C Davies soared ahead with a good lead. Llantwit fought back but Romilly knuckled down and scored a six and a four to win the rink 24-16.

Bryn Gough's rink of A Jones, J Coles and T Bloomfield had a tight match, rallying to 12-12, then 15-15 to finish the game, scoring a single shot on each of the last six ends for a 21-15 win.

Alf Woolcock's rink of A Bumford, D Ford and D Cameron played catch-up for 19 ends. The team pulled out a four on the penultimate end, plus a single shot on the last for a 16-16 draw.

Vince McFarland's rink of P Hoad, R Smallcombe and M Gershenson drew the short straw and had a difficult game against a strong Llantwit team but could not avoid the Llantwit win of 15-16.

RH



MAES GLAS VETERINARY GROUP

Are you up to date with your dog or cat's vaccination? If not June is 'Vaccination Amnesty Month' along with National Microchip Month.

Maes Glas Veterinary Group will re-start a vaccination course for the price of a single booster.

National Microchip Month means that you can have your pet microchipped at the reduced price of £12 (normal price £21).

For more information or to organise an appointment please contact your local branch.

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www.maesglasveterinarygroup.co.uk

NOTICE OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 SECTION 257 AND PARAGRAPH 1 OF SCHEDULE 14

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL (PUBLIC FOOTPATH NO 17B & 25 LLANBLETHIAN) DIVERSION ORDER 2009

The above Order was made on the 2nd day of June 2009. The effect of the Order will be to divert the route of the public footpath from that described in the First Schedule to that described in the second Schedule below and as shown on the Order map.

A copy of the Order and the Order map may be seen free of charge at the Dock Office, Subway Road, Barry, CF63 4RT from 9.00am to 4.00pm on any weekday and also at Cowbridge Town Council, Town Hall, Cowbridge, CF71 7AD from 9.00am to 1.00pm on any weekday. Copies of the Order and map may be bought from the Dock Office only at the price of £3.50.

Any representation about or objection to the Order, may be sent or delivered in writing addressed to the Director of Environmental & Economic Regeneration, Vale of Glamorgan Council, Dock Office, Barry Docks, Barry, CF63 4RT not later than the 2nd day of July 2009. You should clearly state the grounds on which the representation or objection is made.

If no such representations or objections are duly made, or if any so made are withdrawn, The Vale of Glamorgan Council may itself confirm the Order as an unopposed Order. If the Order is sent to the Welsh Assembly Government for confirmation, any representations or objections which have not been withdrawn will be sent with the Order.

Dated this 4th day of June 2009

FIRST SCHEDULE Length of path to be extinguished

Public Footpath No 17b Llanblethian

Commences adjacent the former railway line at ST 0007 7478 and proceeds north-north-eastwards for approximately 91 metres, then turns northwards across agricultural land for approximately 163 metres. The path continues north-north-eastwards for approximately 120 metres to terminate at ST 0017 7514.

Length: 374 metres; Width: 2 feet

Public Footpath No 25 Llanblethian

Commences at ST 0006 7471 and proceeds east-south-eastwards across the school grounds for approximately 93 metres. The path then turns north-eastwards for approximately 17 metres to terminate on the adopted highway at the access point to an existing track at ST 0017 7470.

Length: 110 metres; Width: 2 feet.

SECOND SCHEDULE Length of path to be created

Public Footpath No 17b Llanblethian

Commences adjacent the former railway line at ST 0007 7478 and proceeds north-westwards for approximately 22 metres, then keeping the hedge on the left the path turns northwards for approximately 133 metres. It continues north-westwards for approximately 83 metres, where it then turns north-eastwards for approximately 209 metres to terminate at ST 0017 7514.

Length: 447 metres; Width: 1.5 metres.

Public Footpath No 25 Llanblethian

Commences at ST 0006 7471 and, keeping the hall on the left, proceeds north-north-eastwards for approximately 51 metres and gains access to the existing track. The path turns south-eastwards along the track for approximately 101 metres to terminate on the adopted highway at ST 0017 7470.

Length: 152 metres; Width: 1.5 metres.

Director of Environmental & Economic Regeneration
Dock Office, Barry Docks, Barry, CF63 4RT.

NOTICE OF CONFIRMATION OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER SECTION 119 HIGHWAYS ACT 1980

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL (PUBLIC FOOTPATH NO. 1 WENVOE) EXTINGUISHMENT ORDER 2009

On the 28th day of May the Vale of Glamorgan Council confirmed the above Order.

The effect of the Order as confirmed is to extinguish part of the public footpath as set out in the Schedule below.

A copy of the confirmed Order and Order map may be seen at the address below free of charge between 9.00am and 4.00pm on weekdays from 4 June 2009 until 16 July 2009. Copies of the Order and map may be bought here at a price of £3.50.

This Order comes into force on the 28 May 2009, but if any person aggrieved by the Order desires to question its validity or that of any provision contained in it, on the ground that it is not within the powers of the above Act, or on the ground that any requirement of that Act or any regulation made under it has not been complied with in relation to the confirmation of the Order, he/she may, under paragraph 2 of Schedule 2 to the Act as applied by paragraph 5 of Schedule 6 to the Act, within 6 weeks from the date on which the Notice is first published make an application to the High Court.

SCHEDULE

Commences at Point A at ST 0935 7026 and proceeds eastwards for approximately 128 metres across a field to terminate at the junction with Public Footpath No. 2 Wenvoe at Point B at ST 0947 7026.

Dated this 4th day of June 2009

Director of Environmental & Economic
Regeneration
Docks Offices, Subway Road, Barry, CF63 4RT

Another Great GEM Competition in conjunction with Pukka Productions

Pukka Productions' exciting new venture! Adult and child cast needed.

The banks are in crisis, people are losing their jobs by the thousand every day. The currency is worthless, houses are repossessed and families end up on the street. You can't afford to feed your family or heat your home.

Nobody sees the forgotten children, dressed in rags, cared or not cared for in various public and private institutions; the recession orphans. While the fat cats languish in their castles and watch the little people suffer, as they sit on their fortunes like the hen on a golden egg. Rain every day and grey skies. It seems like the sun will never come out again.

Sound like Britain in 2009? It's not. It's 1930's America in the middle of the great depression. The greatest recession that the USA has ever known. The dollar gets more worthless day by day. You wake up and find that the money in your pocket can't buy you a loaf of bread when it could the day before. A wheelbarrow of cash can't buy you dinner and the kids are skin and bone hungry; but the warmongers arm themselves and line their own pockets with the people's suffering.

This is the backdrop to Pukka Productions' latest venture, 'Annie'. And anyone who's had the pleasure of viewing a Pukka show knows that this will be anything but a 'twice' version of this well loved musical. It's gritty, it's harsh and it's relevant. Hopefully more today than 'tomorrow'!

Make sure you don't miss this perfect family show, for prices as low as £25 for a family of 4, there's at least one piece of credit crunching good news to kick off the summer holidays!

To win a group ticket (4 people) to the value of £25, simply answer the following question . . .

Which decade is Annie set in – in America?

ANSWER:

Send your entries, together with your name, address and telephone number to: Annie Competition, Memorial Hall Theatre, Gladstone Road, Barry, CF62 8NA

Closing date for entries – Friday, 26th June, 2009

Normal competition rules apply.

Annie

July 2009

Box Office: Friday 17th July - 7.30pm
Saturday 18th July - 2.30pm & 7.30pm
Sunday 19th July - 2.30pm

Tickets: Adults £8.00
Concessions £6.00
Group Ticket (4 people) £25.00

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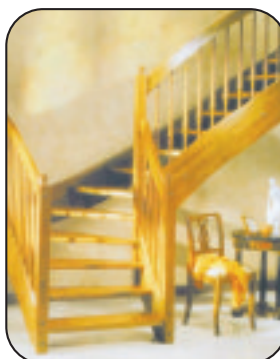
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We've moved, but high quality treatment stays!

ON Monday, June 8 and Friday, July 3, there will be open days at Cowbridge Physiotherapy, Acupuncture and Sports Injury Clinic from 10am-6pm.

We've moved to new and larger premises and

are now able to offer an increased range of services – all under one roof – for your convenience.

However, our aim will be to provide the same professional, friendly, one-to-one assessment and treatment that our patients have come to expect.

Call in on an open day for a free assessment of your problem with one of our specialist

physiotherapists and acupuncture practitioners. We have individual treatment rooms for your privacy, where necessary.

You can also collect a voucher on the day for 10 per cent off your first treatment.

We are now at 14 High Street, Cowbridge (above Martin's Newsagents). Telephone 01446 776466.

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In Business Update

Special discount on world-class prams

BUMPS & Babies are pleased to announce that they are now a Silver Cross-appointed stockist.

Silver Cross is probably the most famous pram manufacturer in the world, with over 200 years' experience and a reputation for the best quality, craftsmanship and design. It's not surprising that they are still very popular today.

We will be stocking the whole range for customers to come and view, and for the month of June, there will be a special launch 10 per cent discount off any prams ordered.

To give our customers the best choice, we will also be discounting Bugaboo, Icadny and Bebecar by 10 per cent, on top of our usual fantastic prices.



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Release your creativity on a VWBN Vale walk!

MAKE a note in your diary for Vale Women's Business Network's 'Releasing Creativity' Walk in the Vale on June 17.

Ideas are strange things and pop up in the most unlikely places! But where they don't pop up is under pressure. Join us at this event for a bit of 'green light' thinking! Walking and talking get the creative

juices flowing and also release 'happy endorphins'.

It's a great way to network! The walk will be short and not strenuous. We start and finish at Illtud's 216 Restaurant and Bar in Llantwit Major.

The menu is as relaxed and comfortable as the setting – a 16th century malt house.

Walking is optional, and those who wish to can enjoy networking at a leisurely and relaxed pace.

The VWBN is an informal and friendly networking forum for women who live or work in the Vale.

For more information, contact admin@vwbn.org.uk



Vale Women's Business Network

June Event

Wed 17th June 2009

Meet at Illtud's 216, Llantwit Major, 6.30pm for a 7pm departure.

Those who do not wish to walk are welcome to eat/drink and network at Illtud's 216. Please let us know if you would like to reserve a table.

Please email events@vwbn.org.uk to book or visit www.vwbn.org.uk

Guests and non members MOST welcome!



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Here comes summer and a new partner

HELLO GEM readers from the **Jayne Rose Agency** (formerly County Classic Introductions).

Hopefully, summer has arrived at last. This can be a very busy time for me, as many people who are without a partner or companion would love to have someone in their lives to enjoy getting out and about – especially to enjoy the lovely summer evenings; going for a stroll and stopping for a drink in a country pub, or going for a picnic.

Many people do not take a holiday, simply because they cannot face going alone.

If this sounds familiar, pick up the 'phone now for some free confidential advice, or look at my very informative website to find out how much it costs and how it works. (See advert above, right for details).

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RIDERS 2000 is a riding club serving the west of Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan with over 130 junior and senior members.

The club caters for all ages and abilities, with activities ranging from club lessons and camps to dressage, show jumping and cross country competitions.

Most of the activities take place at Alps Park

in Wenvoe, thanks to the support of owners Nick Coles and Richard Conway.

The excellent facilities, both indoors and outdoors, cater for the club's busy all-year round activity.

The club has a full programme for the rest of the year, including a one-day event, BHS TREC competition, indoor team and individual show jumping, and a Halloween fun day.

For more information about events, or joining, go to riders2000rc.co.uk or e-mail riders2000rc@hotmail.co.uk

Riders 2000 Jumping Derby

Saturday June 13th at Alps Park

Try this exciting combination of show jumping and cross country. A course of show jumps followed by a short round of traditional cross-country obstacles and finally another round of show jumps – all against the clock.

NOVICE 2'0" - 2'3"; INTERMEDIATE 2'6" - 2'9"
OPEN 3' - 3'3"

Entry fees: Riders 2000 Members £18; Non-Members £20
For further information, go to riders2000rc.co.uk; e-mail riders2000rc@hotmail.co.uk or call 07811 257018

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So, if you need fun, reliable and professional childcare for your event, give us a call and we'd

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We ensure that the children have a fun-packed, memorable time, allowing you and your guests to relax and enjoy the day as much as the

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Now offering Complimentary Consultations Upon Request

NEW MAYOR STEVE IS HONOURED TO REPRESENT HIS HOME COMMUNITY

A MAN who has spent all his life in Caerau, and who is now a borough and town councillor for that community, has been elected Mayor of Maesteg.

Coun Steve Smith was invested with the chain of office at the annual meeting of Maesteg Town Council by outgoing mayor Colin Teesdale. His consort will be his mother, Delia Smith, who enjoys cooking but is not as famous for it as her namesake!

Coun Teesdale said that becoming mayor of Maesteg was very special and only those who had done it before knew what a wonderful thing it was to represent the town in this way.

"This was my second term as mayor and you cannot do it without the support of your wife, family and friends of whatever political persuasion. Everybody supports the mayor."

"I have tried to give as much support as I can to the people of Maesteg

and for the things that they are trying to do."

He paid tribute to clerk Joan Fielding and assistant clerk Margaret Buckley for all their hard work.

"They have done a splendid job and I am grateful to them both. We had a Civic Sunday at Canaan and it was fantastic. We were searching around for a church and my own minister was on holiday, and Canaan welcomed us with open arms."

"Afterwards at the Town Hall, we were entertained by the Maesteg Gleemen. "I was delighted to welcome the High Sheriff and her husband, who wanted to come to us."

He urged everyone in the valley to support the Town Hall. "I spend almost as much time there as I do at home. They rely on us supporting them. The people of Maesteg wanted to keep their hall and we have seen to it that they have."

"It is the money that we, as a council, have

raised from the people that has enabled the Town Hall to continue. Can we imagine not having the Town Hall? I think not."

Coun Teesdale referred to the recent refurbishment of the council offices which the town council has taken over.

"It has been magnificently restored, spending your money to make it the special building it is. We have got it back to the standard it should be, and that's a sign of the strength of the people of Maesteg who wanted it put back to what it was."

Coun Teesdale praised the work of the Llynfi Rivercare Group which cleans up the river banks and has restored the old iron bridge at Trehaer Row.

Other highlights of his year included a visit to the National Eisteddfod in Cardiff, and the march through Bridgend of the Royal Regiment of Wales, when thousands of people turned out to cheer them.

He added that, in these difficult times, businesses in Maesteg need to be supported by the community.

"Being mayor has been an unforgettable experience and truly wonderful. We have enjoyed almost everything and it has been really lovely."

He then welcomed Coun Smith, who is an independent, to the chair: "I am sure you will do well and I know you will gain great pleasure from doing it."

Coun Smith then presented Coun Teesdale with a plaque bearing the Maesteg coat of arms

in gratitude for his hard work as mayor.

A vote of thanks to Coun Teesdale was proposed by Coun Bill May and supported by all councillors.

Coun Smith announced that his mother would be consort, as his wife Margaret is not keen on the limelight.

Mrs Smith was invested with her pendant of office by outgoing mayoress Gloria Teesdale, who was in turn presented with flowers by Mrs Smith.

The deputy mayor will be Coun Phil John of Caerau, but he was away on holiday and will be invested at the next council meeting.

Speaking after the meeting, Coun Smith said he felt very honoured to be installed as mayor: "I have been on the town council for the past 10 years and I have enjoyed trying to help people and getting involved with the community. It is an honour to represent Caerau, where I have lived all my life."

Mr Smith spent 31 years working in the paper mills, taking redundancy two years ago. He was elected to Bridgend County Borough Council five years ago, where he sits as an independent, part of the Annibynwyr group.

The couple have three grown up children – two sons and a daughter – and a six-year-old grandson, Luke, who attended the ceremony.

"I know this is going to be a busy year, and added Coun Smith. "I am particularly looking



ABOVE: Outgoing mayor Colin Teesdale invests new mayor Steve Smith with the chain of office.

forward to the opening in October of the new primary school in Caerau.

"This is the first new school the community has had in more than 100 years."

Coun Smith is vice-chairman of the governors of the new school, as well as being chair of

Blaenllynfi Infants and vice-chair of Blaencrauw Juniors. Both these schools will be closing.

He is also a director of Noddfa Chapel Community Centre – the last of the original directors – and is also a member of Communities First.

Brackla celebrates

BRACKLA Communities First is marking its first anniversary with a special community celebration today (June 4), at Brackla Primary School, with the premiere of a film made by the team with members of the community.

The project involved a company called Options Training – which works to promote tolerance and acceptance of difference and diversity and was funded by the Welsh Assembly Government.

The film shows people aged from eight to 70, talking to each other. The project also

involved creating 'peace mala' bracelets (www.peacemala.org.uk) with each bead symbolising world faiths.

SONYA IN LINE FOR TOP CARER AWARD

ON Saturday (June 6) Sonya O'Connell, a home care worker with Bridgend County Borough Council (CBC), will learn if she is a winner in this year's Ceretas National Home Care Awards.

She was nominated in the category of Home Care Worker Award (Wales) after her name

was put forward by fellow care workers in the council's BridgeStart team.

The awards have been organised by Ceretas, a membership organisation representing the home care sector.

Presented by television personality Ruby Wax, the awards pay tribute to individuals who have demonstrated outstanding excellence within their field of

work. They recognise the significant role that Home Care Workers play in consistently providing high quality standards of care for people who live in their own homes.

Judges will make their decisions based on evidence of a nominee's dedication, awareness and career development through training.

Coun Lyn Morgan, older person's champion and cabinet member for wellbeing said:

"Home care workers provide an essential service for older residents and vulnerable people who wish to continue living independently at home for as long as possible."

"I join Sonya's colleagues in wishing her the very best of luck at the 2009 Ceretas awards."

D-Day commemoration service in Porthcawl

IN order to commemorate the 65th anniversary of the heroic landings by the allies in Normandy in 1944, the Porthcawl branch of the Royal British Legion will hold a short service in John Street, commencing at 10.15am, on June 6.

The Army, Air Force and Sea Cadets are expected on parade. Local schoolchildren and choirs will lead the singing of songs of the period, in preparation for the service at 11 am.

The intention is to pay tribute to the 300,000 soldiers, sailors and airmen who took part in the dawn attack on the Normandy beaches: an attack which brought about the liberation of France and the rest of Europe and changed the

world for ever.

The town played host to many Allied soldiers who trained there in preparation for the invasion.

The service will begin with the exhortation and a two-minute silence. It

is hoped a contingent from the Gorseion ATC Band will play immediately before the exhortation. The service will finish with prayers and a few memories of that time.

Members get a spicy taste of Indian cuisine and culture

MEMBERS have enjoyed another eventful month at Coity WI: the 'Taste of India' day, held at the India Centre in Cardiff, presented sessions on Indian cookery, dance, hand painting and sari draping.

Members seem to have been most impressed by the talk on

COITY WI NEWS

Hinduism given by Dr Singhal, and by their visit to the temple.

Variety was evidenced by the theatre trip to the Muni Arts Centre, Pontypridd to see Frank Vickery's *Trivial Pursuits*. Our seasoned theatre-goers gave the play mixed reviews, ensuring some animated conversation on the way home.

The May meeting was

resolutions night and the cause of the honey bee was adopted by members. The WI will be urging the government to support research into the plight of the honey bee.

Debate was followed by a very entertaining quiz provided by president Mary Poland.

Coity WI meet on the last Wednesday of the month, at 7.30pm, in Coity Church Hall, and any ladies who would like to join will be very welcome.

Bridgend man chairs trading standards body

PRINCIPAL Trading Standards Officer Mike Thomas of Bridgend County Borough Council has been elected chair of the Trading Standards Institute in Wales.

He has worked for the council for three years, and will take over the post for a year.

The Trading Standards Institute, formed in 1881, represents trading standards professionals in the UK and overseas.

This year's conference will be focus on rogue traders, counterfeiting and internet fraud, areas of particular expertise for Mike.

He commented: "I'm very proud to be taking on this role."

"I hope to use my time as chair to raise the profile of the institute within Wales, increase membership and to develop its voice on matters that affect trading standards professionals."

The Little Shop will soon be open for business

PORHCAWL Comprehensive School's BTEC Performing Arts production is Little Shop Of Horrors.

It will run on June 22-23 at the school's drama studio, and tickets are available, priced at £5 adult and £4 concessionary. Curtain up at 7pm.

Previous productions have been a springboard for the careers of the likes of Rob Brydon, Ruth Jones, Jan Anderson (*Casualty* and *Prison Break*), Oliver Ryan (*The Royal Shakespeare Company*), Hywel Simons (*The Bill*), Gary Lake (*We Will Rock You*) and Karen Paullada (*Blonde Bombshells of 1943*).



ABOVE: New mayoress Delia Smith receives her pendant of office from outgoing mayoress Gloria Teesdale who was presented with flowers.

Saddle sore riders complete their marathon for Ty Hafan

STAFF at Biotec Pharmaceutical Services Ltd in Bridgend took part in the 100-mile Cardiff to Tenby bike challenge – and raised £400 for Ty Hafan.

The 100-mile cycle ride took most of the team just nine hours to complete, and it would

have been less if they had not taken a detour round the Gower Peninsula!

Director Marc Weinzwieg, business development manager Matthew Lakelin, quality assurance manager Tristram Evans and chairman Phil Roberts all took part in the challenge that started at 8am.

Although all team members are keen

cyclists, they found the 100-mile distance in just one day a real challenge, especially having to battle against the wind and cold the whole way.

Matthew Lakelin said: "I was so delighted to see the sign for Tenby after nine hours on the bike. We all enjoyed a well-deserved pint or two in the pub afterwards, as it helped to reduce the

pain we were suffering from our behinds!"

"Prior to the race, I was accosted by a guy who was just coming in from a night out and after he asked me what I was doing, he gave me a £1 for the charity and a Cadbury's Creme Egg for energy."

"The egg came in very handy later in the day, because I missed the lunch stop – so I enjoyed it half-way up a hill just outside Swansea!"

Although the 100-mile sponsored bike ride was a real challenge for the team, they have decided to make it an annual event in the Biotec calendar and are looking to recruit more staff to take part next year.

Marc Weinzwieg said: "Although we raised more than £400 for Ty Hafan this year, I would like to see us raise a lot more next year to reach my target of £1,000."

"I am a keen cyclist and I would like to see the event as more of a company event next year, so I will be scouring for willing volunteers."



ABOVE: The cyclists take a well-deserved breather!

Out and About with The GEM

12 ROUNDS STRUGGLES TO GO THE DISTANCE

THE road from professional wrestling to the bright lights of Hollywood is paved with casualties who look as if they've been on the end of a particularly harsh power slam.

For every Dwayne 'The Rock' Johnson, a charismatic performer who has shown in the likes of *The Game Plan* and *Welcome To The Jungle* a deft ability to be both an action hero and comedian, there's a Hulk Hogan – whose dubious big-screen credits include the likes of *No Holds Barred*, *Suburban Commando*, and last, but definitely not least, *Santa With Muscles*.

The latest grappler to swap the spandex for celluloid is John Cena, who stars in *12 Rounds*. Cena plays Danny Fisher who, in the act of capturing terrorist Miles Jackson (Aidan Gillen), inadvertently causes the death of the terrorist's girlfriend.

One year from the accident, Jackson breaks out of prison and captures Danny's girlfriend Molly (Ashley Scott) as an act of revenge; if Danny wants to see Molly again then must partake in 12 challenges, or 'rounds', in order to save her life...

There is a tendency to pigeonhole actors and directors in the film world. After all, just because *12 Rounds* stars

a wrestler and comes from Renny Harlin, an action director whose knowledge of the word 'subtlety' seems to be non-existent, it doesn't mean that the end result won't be a thought-provoking piece of work on the emotional loss of supposedly villainous people, and how it affects the 'good guys'.

Unfortunately, as intriguing as the above film sounds, the finished product is nothing like it.

Instead, as you would expect, it is a film full of two-dimensional characters, mindless explosions and (surprisingly) restrained violence, and dialogue that attempts to prove the theory that should you give a group of monkeys a typewriter, they will eventually write the works of Shakespeare (though in this case they are still at an incredibly early stage).

While Dwayne Johnson has succeeded partly because of acting ability and lots of charm and charisma, John Cena is fundamentally lacking in each of those three criteria.

Cena isn't a bad actor, he just isn't up to headlining a film; he's far too ponderous and, in the more emotional scenes, appears to be channelling Joey from *Friends* technique of doing difficult mathematical puzzles in his head to appear deep and thoughtful.

However, the acting requirements, save for one or two moments, are

largely confined to the action sequences, and Cena is slightly more convincing in that aspect, his physical presence making him perfect casting for the travails that lay ahead for him.

Aidan Gillen takes great relish in laying on the villainy as Jackson, but does so with a spade rather than a brush.

Obviously taking the part for the money rather than any career advancement, Gillen seems to be letting himself loose.

This may be more than appealing for him, but for the audience makes for a villain who is only at points slightly dangerous, and certainly nothing one would imagine a global terrorist to be.

As the damsel in distress, Ashley Scott fails to create much of an impact, having little to do other than to be tied up or have a bomb strapped to her, while the rest of the no-name cast do little to enhance their credentials, with turns that are weak and forgettable.

Given that this is his first script, Daniel Kunka doesn't do too badly, paying attention to the conventions of the action genre while developing a neat idea into a passable script.

However, he shows little flair for dialogue, the exchanges are laboured and forced, and hugely forgettable.

It seems Kunka put most of his effort into the action set-pieces, which dominate the film and fare well under the direction Renny Harlin.

As mentioned earlier, Harlin is no master of subtlety, and his 'if-it-ain't broke' maxim is in full effect here.

Tram cars, elevators, fire trucks – the staple elements of any serious action film are used here...

While Harlin doesn't do anything particularly innovative or new with them, he at least mines the bang for your buck with relative ease.

It's unlikely to put the

SCREEN TALK



by GARETH JAMIESON

Finnish director back onto the A-list but as a hack-for-hire here, he does a decent, if uninspiring job.

However, there is little here to convince that Cena can make as big a splash in the world of film as he has in the world of wrestling.

Given that this film was bankrolled by WWE Studios, an offshoot of the WWE wrestling company, it appears Cena will still be wheeled out in films of this ilk for as long as they want him to.

Quite whether or not people will pay to go and see it is a completely different proposition.

GARETH'S VERDICT –

A weak action film that is more or less just one gigantic set-piece. *12 Rounds* struggles to go the full distance.

John Cena makes for a decent action hero/poor actor, but the direction and script struggle to convince, leaving the end result as a feeble piece of work that has only one or two moments in its slightly long running time.

Poor

FOLK MUSIC

CASTLE Folk Club, Jewel Street, Barry, is holding its monthly get together on Tuesday, June 9, from 8.30pm, upstairs in the Castle Hotel.

Barry Floral Society

AFTER a demonstration and lunch at the home of Mrs Elizabeth Graham, on Wednesday, June 3, members of the Barry Floral Society will return to their normal venue, the St Nicholas Hall, Barry.

On Tuesday, June 9, they will be entertained by Mrs Alwyn Page with a demonstration entitled

NEWS IN BRIEF

'Surprise - Surprise' (commencing at 2.15pm).

Then on Tuesday, June 23, the club holds its annual summer afternoon tea and exhibition – *Midsummer*, 2.30pm-

4.15pm.

Cowbridge

THE Mayor and Mayoress of Cowbridge will be holding their monthly coffee morning, in aid

of Breast Cancer Care, on Saturday, June 6, and invite the public to join them in the Mayor's Parlour, Town Hall, for tea/coffee and cake, between 10.30am-11am/ Admission £2.

'TAKE THAT' The GEM

are coming to Cardiff and you could be there with The GEM/Bro Radio 98.1FM

Take That are back with their **BIGGEST EVER UK** Tour! To celebrate the launch of their 'Circus' album, Gary, Jason, Howard and Mark are bringing their unmissable live show to UK arenas once more.

BRO Radio, the Vale's only Community Radio Station is proud to be giving YOU the chance to WIN a pair of tickets to see Take That at the Millennium Stadium, Cardiff on Tuesday 16 June 2009. It's easy to enter; just complete the entry form, answer the question correctly and send it into us, or you can send in your answer by email.

The winner will be the correct entry pulled out of the hat during Lee Mac's Drivetime Show on Monday 15 June. **Good luck!**

For your chance to win a pair of tickets to see TAKE THAT at the Millennium Stadium, Cardiff, Tuesday 16 June, 2009, correctly answer the following question:

"Shine" is the second single taken from *Take That's* comeback album *Beautiful World*. But in which year did it reach number one in the UK?

A: 2000 B: 2004 C: 2007

Answer

Name _____

Address _____

Post code _____

Evening contact number _____

Send your entries to: Take That Competition, BRO Radio, The Media Centre, YMCA Hub, Barry CF63 4EE. Or hand it into reception. You can also email your answer to: take-that@broradio.co.uk - Subject: Gem 'Take That' Competition details available by calling 01446 240 681 or visit our website: www.broradio.co.uk Entries must reach BRO Radio by midday, Monday 15 June 2009 - Ineligible or late entries will be disqualified - Winners must be available evening 16 June 2009. **GOOD LUCK!**

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Tudor stamps - GEM winners

THE winners of our recent Tudor stamps competition were:

Mrs Faith Perry, Cogan; Anne Marsh, Llantwit Major; Rosie Woolven, Rhoose; Mrs EA Thomas, Penarth; Mrs C Clancy, Bridgend; D Wilson, Llantwit Major; Mari Hughes, Ely; John W Floyd, Llantwit Major; Jeffrey Pascoe, Pontyclun; EV Roberts, Wenvoe; Margaret Lamb,

Cowbridge; Mrs M Lacey, Barry; Emma Charles Singh, Llanblethian; EW Powell, Pencoe; Mrs EI Ringham, Barry; Shan Llewellyn, Coychurch; Mrs P Williams, Nottage; Jeanette Thomas, Cowbridge; MJ Cassam, Barry and Mrs A King, Pencoe.
Congratulations to you all.

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NEWS FROM BARRY COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

PUPILS MAKE AN ITALIAN CONNECTION

B A R R Y Comprehensive School recently played host to a group of Italian pupils and staff from ISIS Cicognini Rodari, a school near Prato (which is 22km from Florence)

Nineteen 17-year-old students, two members of staff (one the head-teacher) and Matilde, the 10-year-old daughter of one of the teachers, all joined us for lessons and cultural events, in what we hope to see as the beginning of a long lasting friendship with our Italian School.

The aim of the visit was a bilateral project entitled 'Comparing Traditions'. Our visitors were keen to see how we taught a wide range of subjects and also to find out what is special about Welsh Culture and tradition.

Highlights of the visit included a visit to St. Fagans, which covers Welsh life from Celtic times to the present day.

Our visitors were really interested in the school house and the infamous 'Welsh NOT'. The group also enjoyed a lesson, in

English, on Dylan Thomas at the actual Boathouse in Laugharne where he wrote so much of his work. This was a very special occasion for all involved.

The Italian students are studying *Pride and Prejudice*, so we felt we couldn't miss out on a trip to the Jane Austen Centre at Bath. The centre is excellent and we booked in a literary walk around Bath, paying homage to Jane Austen settings and episodes from a range of novels.

A good investigation into local customs should not omit food, and we tried hard to ensure that our visitors sampled both Welsh and British delicacies.

A large, traditional Sunday roast was enjoyed by all at the King Arthur Hotel, set in the beautiful landscape of the Gower Peninsula, while, nearer to home, our year-10 college students laid on a superb Welsh-style buffet of hot and cold typical Welsh foods.

The Italian visitors treated us to a wonderful homemade spaghetti Carbonara.

Our visitors felt that the project did fulfil their initial aims: they were

immersed in Welsh culture and did gain a very real experience of Welsh/British education.

The students particularly appreciated an afternoon visit to High Street Primary School and were impressed with the interactive nature of the lessons.

Students also felt that their English had improved, many of them making extended thank you speeches in English on their final night.

We were so pleased to host this visit and it was felt to be successful. There are already plans for Welsh students to return the visit in March 2010 - our year-8 students are currently brushing up their Italian!

This visit should be an excellent springboard for Italian growing and flourishing in our school.

Finally, as a school we would like to thank the host of staff (including ex-colleagues) and students laid on who gave readily of their time to ensure the visit was successful.

Thanks to the many drivers, cooks - cawl cooked at midnight! - and individuals who were so generous in giving up time to create this special European friendship. AC



RIGHT:
Making friends
at the Jane
Austen Centre at
Bath.

LEFT: A glorious
day at the
Gower.



All Saints' pupils take part in a close study of the natural world



Following from last week's story about All Saints pupils taking a trip to Cwm Talwg woods in order to investigate the natural world, here are some more pictures of the pupils getting up close and personal with nature. As evidenced by the pictures, it appears these pupils have no fear of the creepy-crawlies that nestle in the Cwm Talwg woodland!



The Italian visitors treated us to a home-cooked meal.

Caring Palmerston school is praised

PALMERSTON School has won warm praise from the Vale AM and education minister, Jane Hutt, for its educational achievements and "inclusive and caring atmosphere".

"The school, its staff and pupils are taking full advantage of the foundation phase and revised skills curriculum to benefit all the pupils," she observed.



Jane Hutt AM with headteacher Mr Middlemiss and pupils in the IT suite.

Outstanding Murch wins top marks from the AM



Jane Hutt AM with headteacher Mr Derek Thomas and pupils.

OUTSTANDING features at Murch Junior School were acclaimed by Jane Hutt AM for the Vale.

She recently visited the school to meet the head, Mr Thomas, staff and pupils for an enjoyable tour of the school and grounds.

Afterwards, she commented: "As

the Estyn inspection Report stated last November, Murch Junior School has 'outstanding features in the way it promotes pupils' creativity, standards of achievement in mathematics and music and the quality of teaching it provides'.

"This was clear from my visit where I met confident pupils, enjoying the educational opportunities offered in this lovely school".

VALE STUDENTS PROSPER AT ATHLETIC CHAMPIONSHIPS

YEAR-12 students Curtis Mathews (Barry Comprehensive) and Elinor Lewis (Bro Morgannwg) were the top placed Vale athletes when the 14th Cardiff & the Vale Schools Combined Events championships were held at the Cardiff

International Sports Stadium at Leckwith.

Last year, when there was no athletics stadium in Cardiff, the event was held for the only time at Jenner Park. It was a lovely, sunny afternoon and a record number of pupils competed – 194 – with 82 of them representing Vale schools, and the fixture was completed in its planned four hour time slot.

The drawback with Jenner is that it only has one high jump bed, which resulted, last year, in the middle and junior girls only completing four events instead of the usual pentathlon.

This time, at new Leckwith, conditions were not good, one of those damp, drizzly and windy afternoons, but still a new record number of pupils competed, with the 200 mark exceeded for the first time – 210 athletes from years 8 to 13 took part, with a hugely encouraging 99 coming from the Vale schools.

Mathews, last year's middle (under-17) champion with a points total of 2,554 for a competition covering the 100m hurdles, long and high jumps, shot and 800 metres, underlined how much he has improved under the guidance of Welsh Athletics combined events coach Mike Guest. He finished with a hugely encouraging total of 2,590 points for the senior competition, which covers a different combination of events – 100 metres, long jump, shot, javelin and 1,500 metres.

That points score better the previous record of 2,467 for those five events, set by Daniel Gaunt (Cardiff High) in 2004 – and it shows that,

although the Barry student is far from the finished article, he is heading in the right direction.

For Lewis, much better known for her pole vault prowess, there was the satisfaction of claiming a first ever combined events title, though she may be disappointed with her points total in the senior girls' competition, in which all six athletes were from Vale schools.

In the middle (under-17) and junior (under-15) sections, Cowbridge year-11 Oliver Trotman produced the highest points score. His 2,302 was good enough for second place behind St Teilo's year-10 Jamaul Whyte (2,442) while Rhys Allin (Cowbridge, middle, 2,102), Ellie Carter (Bryn Hafren, middle, 1,903) and Maisie Matthews (Bro Morgannwg, junior, 1,836) all finished third and Mathew Roan (St Cyres, 1,720) was the top placed Vale junior boy in seventh place.

The event was hosted by the Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg PE department, who made an excellent job of organising the event.

Following this fixture, 91 athletes were selected to represent Cardiff & the Vale of Glamorgan Schools at the Welsh Schools' Combined Events championships, which will be held for the first time at the Swansea University athletics track on Saturday, June 27. Fifty-five Vale pupils are included in that team.

Results of Vale athletes who finished the five events:

Senior Boys – (SP, LJ, 100, JT, 1,500) – 1 Curtis Mathews (Barry Comp) 2590 (10.67, 12.2, 35.69, 5.87, 5:00.30); 2 Tom Larkin (Cow) 1911 (8.43, 13.3, 26.25, 5.02, 5:09.50); 3 Steffan Kitchen (Cow) 1725 (8.73, 14.2, 33.73, 4.51, 5:26.20).

Middle Boys – (100H, HJ, LJ, SP, 800) – 2 Oliver Trotman (Cow) 2308 (17.1, 1.75, 4.66, 11.02, 2:24.8); 3 Rhys Allin (Cow) 2102 (17.2, 1.40, 5.42, 8.06, 2:16.7); 5 Tom Phillips (Stan) 2069 (17.1, 1.60, 5.20, 7.59, 2:26.1); 7 Duke Durham (St Cyres) 1848



Elinor Lewis (Bro Morgannwg) on her way to victory in the senior girls' competition. (Photographs by Ian Dixon).

(18.1, 1.45, 5.05, 7.83, 2:27.0); 8 James Glaves (Bro M) 1828 (18.1, 1.60, 4.74, 8.40, 2:37.0); 10 Dillon Morgan (Cow) 1770 (19.7, 1.50, 4.36, 9.86, 2:26.2); 12 Ethan Dicks (Barry Comp) 1745 (19.9, 1.55, 4.88, 10.25, 2:42.0); 13 Einar Scott (Bro M) 1723 (18.8, 1.45, 4.37, 8.30, 2:24.6); 14 Charlie Halpin (St John's) 1717 (19.2, 1.40, 4.70, 7.45, 2:20.6); 15 Jake Connelly (Bro M) 1690 (19.4, 1.45, 4.51, 9.57, 2:32.9); 16 Samuel Morgan (Cow) 1644 (19.3, 1.35, 4.65, 6.91, 2:19.9); 17 Tiernan Scott (Bro M) 1637 (20.8, 1.50, 4.57, 7.27, 2:21.7); 20 Kieron Laity (Bro M) 1607 (19.0, 1.40, 4.74, 8.96, 2:40.7); 22 Peter Pemberton (Stan) 1576 (20.4, 1.45, 4.33, 9.43, 2:33.4); 26 Zac Deere (Bro M) 1357 (20.2, 1.35, 4.66, 8.68, 2:51.0); 27 Joseph Coyle (Llantwit) 1348 (20.6, 1.50, 4.32, 7.94, 2:49.6); 28 Tom Howles (Llantwit) 1285 (21.8, 1.35, 4.08, 6.85, 2:28.7); 29 Nathan Taylor (Barry Comp) 1268 (19.2, 1.40, 4.38, 6.16, 2:50.2); 30 Luke Gibbings (Barry Comp) 1261 (19.8, 1.35, 3.88, 6.25, 2:35.7); 31 Rhidian Mephum (Bro M) 1245 (20.3, 1.35, 4.15, 6.68, 2:40.9); 35 Ashley Greening (Barry Comp) 1162 (21.8, 1.35, 4.13, 6.58, 2:39.8); 36 Joel Mason (Barry Comp) 1061 (24.3, 1.45, 4.07, 7.26, 2:49.8); 37 Andrew Williams (Llantwit) 1055 (22.5, 1.25, 4.04, 7.16, 2:42.6); 39 Luke O'Sullivan (Barry Comp) 720 (23.8, 1.40, 7.06, 2:49.6).

Junior Boys – (80H, SP, LJ, HJ, 800) – 7 Mathew Roan (St Cyres) 1210 (14.3, 8.54, 1.55, 4.26, 2:44.1); 8 Wesley Burns (Bro M) 1689 (14.3, 8.64, 1.20, 4.69, 2:31.7); 13 Christian Walters (Cow) 1552 (15.3, 8.53, 1.30, 4.36, 2:36.5); 15 Damian Robinson (Barry Comp) 1485 (17.5, 8.72, 1.25, 4.63, 2:30.3); 16 Dafydd Davies (Bro M) 1468 (16.0, 8.77, 1.30, 4.03, 2:35.3); 18 Jack Pritchard (Bro M) 1422 (15.4, 7.84, 1.40, 4.43, 2:52.4); 20 William Powell (Barry Comp) 1399 (16.0, 7.88, 1.25, 4.54, 2:42.3); 22 Harry Hitchcock (Cow) 1387 (14.4, 7.37, 1.25, 4.25, 2:48.5); 26 Mathew

Edwards (Barry Comp) 1270 (17.3, 6.13, 1.15, 4.05, 2:23.0); 28 Emrys George (Bro M) 1249 (disq, 8.59, 1.40, 4.90, 2:46.2); 30 Ben Thomas (Bro M) 1227 (16.5, 9.21, 1.25, 4.50, 3:03.7); 31 Kieran Sansom (St Cyres) 1227 (15.6, 7.38, 1.20, 3.80, 2:44.3); 33 Kieron Carpenter (Bro M) 1180 (16.3, 8.25, 1.25, 3.86, 2:52.8); 35 Harri Williams (Bro M) 1148 (16.3, 5.97, 1.20, 4.09, 2:43.3); 36 Daniel Wells (Bro M) 1093 (17.6, 7.43, 1.35, 3.63, 2:50.9); 37 Jacob Briscoe (Bro M) 1069 (15.9, 7.33, 1.30, 3.68, 3:01.9); 39 Connor Lang (Bro M) 1029 (16.1, 6.23, 1.25, 4.08, 3:01.0); 41 David Parks (Bro M) 1022 (15.0, 6.03, 1.30, 3.46, dnf); 42 Malachai Corrigan (Bro M) 958 (18.1, 8.25, 1.20, 4.03, dnf).

Senior Girls – (SP, LJ, 100, JT, 1,500) – 1 Elinor Lewis (Bro M) 1820 (6.64, 14.0, 17.08, 4.61, 3:13.5); 2 Leah Grisdale (Bro M) 1466 (4.75, 14.5, 8.62, 4.24, 3:03.4); 3 Alice Thomas (Cow) 1296 (5.30, 15.0, 14.84, 3.99, 3:28.6); 4 Heather Jarvis (Cow) 1222 (6.03, 15.4, 10.03, 3.93, 3:23.4); 5 Melanie Bowden (Bryn H) 1156 (5.82, 16.5, 15.55, 4.02, 3:31.1); 6 Emma Meyrick (Bryn H) 552 (6.24, 18.0, 12.60, 2.09, 4:45.9).

Middle Girls – (HJ, 80H, LJ, 800) 3 Ellie Carter (Bryn H) 1903 (1.40, 4.27, 14.9, 5.58, 3:09.0); 10 Lia Thomas (Bro M) 1646 (1.40, 4.29, 17.0, 6.81, 3:35.2); 11 Natalie Parsons (Llantwit) 1636 (1.25, 3.85, 14.6, 5.17, 3:10.6); 12 Shanell

Edwards (Bro M) 1626 (1.25, 4.51, 16.0, 6.42, 3:29.7); 13 Storm Morham (St Richard G) 1604 (1.25, 3.39, 15.6, 4.90, 2:52.8); 15 Joanne Williams (B of Llandaff) 1564 (1.25, 4.07, 16.7, 5.50, 3:08.1); 16 Lisa Williams (Bro M) 1546 (1.20, 3.79, 16.9, 6.66, 3:04.3); 17 Molly Llewelyn (Comp) 1521 (1.35, 3.60, 16.5, 4.10, 3:04.2); 23 Chalise Ludvigsen (Bryn H) 1335 (1.30, 3.79, 17.7, 5.70, 3:31.1); 24 Georgina Jackson (Cow) 1285 (1.20, 3.74, 16.3, 5.34, 3:33.6); 25 Kara Vernon (Bryn H) 1281 (1.30, 3.64, 18.9, 5.71, 3:23.5); 27 Alice Palmer-Evans (Cow) 1214 (1.15, 3.38, 16.0, 4.90, 3:24.6); 30 Megan Watts (Cow) 1034 (1.15, 3.31, 19.5, 4.81, 3:16.3); 31 Jade Deverell (Bryn H) 919 (nh, 3.19, 19.3, 5.47, 3:01.5).

Junior Girls – (LJ, 75H, SP, 800) – 3 Maisie Matthews (Bro M) 1863 (4.02, 14.5, 6.27, 1.35, 3:00.0); 5 Danielle Green (St Richard G) 1783 (4.14, 15.4, 5.69, 1.25, 2:50.1); 11 Lauren Drew (St Richard G) 1547 (3.93, 17.1, 7.84, 1.10, 2:57.7); 12 Chloe Phillips (Llantwit) 1542 (4.03, 14.7, 5.49, 1.20, 3:13.0); 15 April Dee (St Richard G) 1481 (3.74, 15.5, 6.21, 1.10, 3:00.3); 16 Caitlin Allin (Cow) 1385 (3.55, 15.6, 5.03, 1.25, 3:13.4); 22 Emma Worrall (Llantwit) 1242 (3.85, 15.8, 6.38, 1.15, 3:44.1); 23 Rebecca John (Cow) 1216 (3.70, 17.0, 3.84, 1.10, 3:01.3); 25 Jessica Oliver (Cow) 1174 (3.47, 16.3, 4.97, 1.20, 3:27.0); 26 Bethan Yapp (Bro M) 1153 (3.11, 16.9, 5.74, 1.15, 3:15.2); 29 Bethan Thorngate (Bryn H) 1069 (3.08, 17.1, 6.42, 1.15, 3:31.7); 31 Katie Mills (Bryn H) 1003 (3.20, 18.4, 5.56, 1.15, 3:25.2); 32 Megan Thickpenney (Bryn H) 990 (3.24, 17.8, 6.59, 1.10, 3:38.3); 36 Danielle Close (Bryn H) 840 (3.35, 18.3, 4.10, 1.05, 3:28.2); 41 Cariann Rogers (Bryn H) 680 (3.28, 20.4, 5.15, 1.05, 3:53.4); 46 Sam Chambers (Bryn H) 528 (3.33, 21.5, 4.03, 1.00, 3:56.0).

PETER MORRIS

Aubrey takes the Shreival Trophy

THE monthly meeting of The Glamorgan Farmers' Golf Society, at the rapidly-developing Coed y Mwstwr Golf Club at Coychurch, proved an added attraction to the day's sponsor, Mr Islwyn Rees, whose family farm at St Mary Hill overlooks part of the course.

Islwyn can well recall working the land and baling hay for the family on which the course is built, and little did he think that one day he would be walking the same fields with a set of golf clubs.

Playing for the Shreival Trophy, donated to the society by Islwyn to commemorate his time as High Sheriff of Mid-Glamorgan, a slightly reduced entry of 32 set off with high hopes of returning home with one of the many quality prizes on offer.

The format for this annual competition is medal play, which was probably the reason a few of the regular members either forwarded sick notes or cried off with medal-flu!

The course proved quite a challenge, with any wayward shot being rightly punished, but the straight hitters were rewarded with the opportunity of playing shots into receptive greens.

Veteran Robert Thomas headed the leaderboard for quite some time with an outstanding front nine of 41 gross. Unfortunately, fatigue set in over the closing holes, causing the retired auctioneer from Cowbridge to finish with a nett 77.

David Williams was also well positioned until approaching the final hole, when a wayward tee shot into knee-high grass, more suitable for Islwyn's baler, resulted in this farmer from Llanccadle having a disastrous eight to finish with a nett 78.

Low handicapper Godfrey Lewis returned an impressive nett 75 to



ABOVE: Colin Humphreys and Robert Thomas at the 19th hole.

finish fourth, with Keith Walker, nett 74, finishing third. Runner-up was Keith Wilding with a nett 72, just two shots behind overall winner Aubrey Bowen, whose closing score of nett 70 proved a wonderful way to celebrate his wife Maureen's birthday!

Nipper Jewell Knock Out draw

The draw for the second round of The Nipper Jewell Memorial Trophy has brought together some interesting pairings, with Aubrey Thomas having to play his neighbour David Williams, and Southerndown members Mike King and John Caines being drawn to play each other.

Clive Edwards, a surprise winner against Glyn Watts-Jones in the first round, has been drawn away to Cottrell Park member Bryan Owen, while David Harris, following his demolition in the last round of business partner Julian Kelly, was rewarded with a home draw against three-times winner of the trophy Trevor Wooding.

Other games are Keith Walker v Coun Ray Thomas; Godfrey Lewis v Aubrey Bowen; Ray Howells v Brian Jones; and Neil McLean v Tosh Taylor.

TMcC



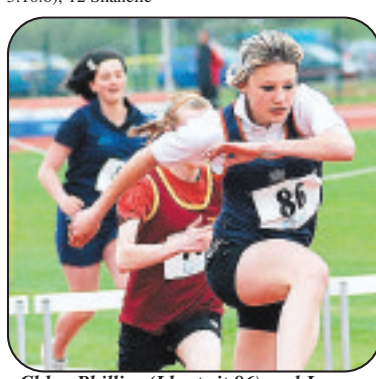
Captain Ray Howells, sponsor Islwyn Rees and his guests Huw Thomas and Mark Rees.



Guest winner Keith Davies, captain Ray Howells, sponsor Islwyn Rees, winner Aubrey Bowen and runner-up Keith Wilding.



Oliver Trotman (Cowbridge) second in the middle boys' section.



Chloe Phillips (Llantwit 86) and Lauren Drew (St Richard Gwyn 70) in hurdles action.

Soccer mums race for life in tribute to Allan

MUMS from the Barry FC under-16s team last week took part in the Cancer Research UK Race for Life – in memory of the team's assistant coach, Allan Dicks, who died of cancer last year.

The Race for Life is a 5km event for women only, and the mums were joined by friends and relatives to make up 'Team Allan'. All wore t-shirts with Allan's name and photograph on the back.

Claire Curtis, who was part of the team, said: "When Allan died last year, the players and parents were devastated by the loss of someone who was so much a part of the team.

"I take part in the Race for Life every year and suggested to the mums that we enter a team in memory of Allan, but also as a way of raising funds for Cancer Research UK at the same time."

Allan's son Ethan is the goalkeeper for Barry FC and his nan Jill and auntie Jo joined Allan's wife Lisa in the Race for Life team.

Lisa said: "This season, the boys did Allan proud by winning both the league and the cup for under-16s, doing the double for him, but this was something that the mums could do as their own tribute.

"He would have been amused at the sight of us girls struggling around the 5km course on a scorcher of a day, but would have been proud of our efforts and the funds raised for Cancer



Research UK."

The team have raised more than £500 and Claire Curtis, who is a local business manager for Barclays in Barry, has had her fundraising matched by the bank under their employee £4E scheme.

ABOVE:
Allan Dicks.

LEFT:
Team Allan, who took part in Race for Life, at Cardiff.



Green day at sensory gardens

A VOLUNTEER day will be held at Castleland Community Centre/Sensory Garden site on Sunday (June 7).

The event is to be held in conjunction with the BBC & Big Lottery breathing places initiative, to encourage the public to get involved in an environmental project.

Telephone 01446 403549 for details.

Open session at Barry Tennis Club

BARRY Tennis Club is holding a special 'Rusty Rackets' session on Saturday, June 13 from 2pm-6pm.

Spokesman Andy Green, said: "The open afternoon will provide an opportunity for non members of all abilities to come along to see what the club has to offer, and have a go at tennis."

"During the summer school holidays, the club is also planning special sessions every Monday morning, with fun competitions for junior members."

Barry Tennis Club is part of Barry Athletic Club at Paget Road, on Barry Island.

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT, 1990

NOTICE is hereby given that application has been made to the Council for planning permission for the undermentioned developments:

Developments in Conservation Areas

Application No: 2009/00475/LBC
Proposal: Proposal to build a small extension adjoining a modern extension to the rear of the listed building, which will serve for the installation of 2 new Automated Teller Machines (ATM)
Location: 1, Windsor Road, Penarth
Conservation Area: Penarth

Application No: 2009/00476/FUL
Proposal: Refurbishment and extension of dwelling
Location: Church Cottage, The Square, Colwinston
Conservation Area: Colwinston

Application No: 2009/00503/LBC
Proposal: Removal of existing rooflights due to weather ingress and their replacement with flush type (conservation grade) rooflights
Location: Community Centre (Flats), Old Hall, High Street, Cowbridge
Conservation Area: Cowbridge with Llanblethian

Application No: 2009/00505/FUL
Proposal: Renewal of application 03/00840/FUL, erection of one single storey bungalow at Station Drive, East Aberthaw
Location: Chequers, Station Terrace, East Aberthaw
Conservation Area: East Aberthaw

Listed Building Consent

Application No: 2009/00457/LBC
Proposal: Change existing single door to double doors on side elevation with roller shutter screen covering opening. Roller shutter screen to be boxed as existing screens. Rendering rear brick wall to rear elevation
Location: 69, High Street, Barry
Listed Building: Grade II

Application No: 2009/00470/LBC
Proposal: Install new signs and external alterations
Location: Barons Court Public House, Penarth Road, Penarth
Listed Building: Grade II

Application No: 2009/00475/LBC
Proposal: Proposal to build a small extension adjoining a modern extension to the rear of the listed building, which will serve for the installation of 2 new Automated Teller Machines (ATM)
Location: 1, Windsor Road, Penarth
Listed Building: Grade II

Application No: 2009/00503/LBC
Proposal: Removal of existing rooflights due to weather ingress and their replacement with flush type (conservation grade) rooflights
Location: Community Centre (Flats), Old Hall, High Street, Cowbridge
Listed Building: Grade II

Development that might affect the setting of a Listed Building

Application No: 2009/00472/FUL
Proposal: Creation of opening to rear building to facilitate off road parking
Location: Church Farmhouse, Monkash
Listed Building: Affecting Church Farmhouse, Grade II

Full details (including plans) may be inspected during normal working hours for a period of 21 days in the offices of the Head of Planning and Transportation at the address given below, or via the Council's Online Applications Register at vog.planning-register.co.uk.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PROCEDURE) ORDER, 1995

Application(s) that may be of General Public Interest

Application No: 2009/00489/OUT
Proposal: Demolition of existing buildings and redevelopment of site for residential purposes
Location: Ogmor Residential Centre, Hazelwood, Off Main Road, Ogmor By Sea

Application No: 2009/00490/FUL
Proposal: Amendment to Planning Permission 2007/01520/FUL comprising minor alterations to 4 No. townhouses as approved and variation to flats
Location: Vacant land at corner of Court Road and Newton Street, Barry

Full details (including plans) may be inspected during normal working hours for a period of 14 days in the offices of the Head of Planning and Transportation at the address given below, or via the Council's Online Applications Register at vog.planning-register.co.uk.

Application(s) submitted with an Environmental Statement

NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 8 and REGULATION 14 OF THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) (ENGLAND AND WALES) REGULATIONS, 1999 (AS AMENDED)

Proposed development at Land accessed off of Atlantic Way within Barry Docks, Barry.

I give notice that additional information has been submitted by Mr. Nick Baston, who is applying to The Vale of Glamorgan Council for Planning Permission to Change of use from B2 - General Industrial Use to Sui Generis - Waste Use which would include operational development in the form of the construction of a gasification waste to energy plant for non-hazardous waste.

The additional information can be inspected at the address given below. Members of the public may obtain copies of the additional information from Barry Energy Recovery Ltd., Whitehills Business Park, 6 Croft Court, Blackpool, Lancashire. FY4 5PR so long as stocks last.

Members of the public may inspect copies of:

- The application.
- The plans.
- The environmental statement.
- Other documents submitted with the application.

- Additional information (including Air Quality and Noise Assessments)

at the address given below during all reasonable hours until 25 June, 2009.

Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should write to the Head of Planning and Transportation at the address given below by 25 June 2009 quoting reference 2009/00021/FUL.

Full details (including plans) may be inspected during normal working hours for a period of 21 days in the offices of the Head of Planning and Transportation at the address given below, or via the Council's Online Applications Register at <http://vog.planning-register.co.uk>.

Dated: 4 June, 2009

Rob Thomas
Head of Planning and Transportation
The Vale of Glamorgan Council,
Dock Office, Barry Docks,
Barry, CF63 4RT

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN NOTICE OF PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION ORDER HIGHWAYS ACT 1980

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL (PUBLIC FOOTPATH NOS 19 & 20 PENLLYN) PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION ORDER

1. Notice is hereby given that the above named Order made on the 2nd day of June 2009 is about to be submitted to the Welsh Assembly Government or to be confirmed as an unopposed Order by the Vale of Glamorgan Council.

2. The effect of the Order, if confirmed without modification, will be to divert the route of the public right of way from that described in the First Schedule to this Order to that described in the Second Schedule to this Order.

3. A copy of the Order and the map contained in it may be seen at the address below during normal office hours.

4. Any representation or objection with respect to the Order may be sent to the Director of Environmental & Economic Regeneration, Dock Office, Barry Docks, Barry, CF63 4RT before the 2nd day of July 2009 and should state the grounds on which it is made.

5. If no representation or objections are duly made, or if any so made are withdrawn, The Vale of Glamorgan may, instead of submitting the Order to the Welsh Assembly Government, itself confirm the Order. If the Order is submitted to the Welsh Assembly Government, any representations and objections, which have been duly made and not withdrawn, will be sent with the Order.

Dated this 4th day of June 2009

FIRST SCHEDULE Existing Route of Footpath

Restricted Byway No 19 Penllyn

Commences on a track at SS 9870 7754 and proceeds north-eastwards for approximately 147 metres to terminate at the junction with Public Footpath No 20 Penllyn within the garden of Chatwood at SS 9880 7765.

Length: 147 metres; Width: 9-12 feet

Public Footpath No 20 Penllyn

Commences within the garden of Chatwood at the junction with Restricted Byway No 19 Penllyn at SS 9880 7765 and proceeds north-eastwards out of the garden and along the private drive for approximately 86 metres to terminate at SS 9887 7770.

Length: 86 metres; Width: 3-6 feet

SECOND SCHEDULE New Route of Footpath

Restricted Byway No 19 Penllyn

Commences at SS 9870 7754 and proceeds south-eastwards for approximately 16 metres. Keeping the boundary to Chatwood on the left, the path turns north-eastwards through a field to terminate at the junction with Public Footpath No 20 Penllyn at SS 9881 7761.

Length: 143 metres; Width: 3.7 metres

Public Footpath No 20 Penllyn

Commences at the junction with Restricted Byway No 19 at SS 9881 7761 and keeping the boundary of Chatwood on the left proceeds north-eastwards through a field for approximately 106 metres to terminate on the private drive at SS 9887 7770.

Length: 106 metres; Width: 3.7 metre

Director of Environmental & Economic Regeneration
Dock Office, Subway Road, Barry, CF63 4RT

Pupils exploring NHS career in the borough



ABOVE: Pupils were invited to learn more about a career in the NHS.

YOUNG people from across Bridgend have been attending special events to learn about the wide range of jobs and careers available in the Health Service in Wales.

The events, held as part of NHS open week, took place at Pencoed College and Maesteg school.

Staff from the employment resource department, based at

Glanrhyd, took part in a careers convention at Pencoed College for 14 to 15 year olds in the borough.

An event called 'Exploring the NHS' was held for younger pupils aged 11 and 12 at Maesteg.

The events are part of 14 to 18 learning activities in Bridgend and are backed by the education authority, Careers Wales, Bridgend College and local training providers and employers. Funding is provided by the Welsh

Assembly Government.

At Pencoed, the careers convention attracted around 750 pupils from a number of local schools and was held over two days.

The aim was to raise the aspirations of young people and increase their awareness of the importance of obtaining qualifications and skills to help their future job prospects.

The event also gave them an insight into the world of work and the range of opportunities

available to them.

Staff took part from different areas of the NHS, including occupational therapy, dietetics, radiology, mental health, pharmacy, learning disabilities and maternity.

Pupils took part in a quiz with cinema tickets as the prize.

At Maesteg, around 240 year-7 pupils attended and its aim was to raise awareness about different types of careers available within the NHS.

The event set out to explain how NHS professionals work and what their jobs entail on a day-to-day basis.

Porthcawl Council NEWS IN BRIEF

PORTHCAWL Royal British Legion are to consider how the role played by soldiers of many nationalities based in the town during the war should be commemorated.

Coun David Newton-Williams had raised the issue of a plaque to remember the American GI's, but other members pointed out allies from other countries were also posted to the town in the run-up to D-Day.

He has told Porthcawl Town Council he will report back.

COMPLAINTS about the levels of litter on Coney Beach and Sandy Bay are being investigated by Porthcawl Town Council.

Coun Wendy Ingram said that she had received a number of complaints and she felt action should be taken before summer.

It was agreed that she and Coun David Newton-Williams will meet the owner of Coney Beach to see if the town council can assist in ensuring that the beach is cleaned regularly.

FUNDING of £250 is being given by Porthcawl Town Council to pupils of Nottage Primary School so that plants can be purchased for planting in the cleared area of land at the rear of Suffolk Place. The school has been involved in this project.

A leaflet on the Nottage Circular Walk has been published and is now available at the Tourist Information Centre in John Street or from Porthcawl Town Council offices in Victoria Avenue.

Bridgend MP backs union's campaign on child poverty

BRIDGEND MP Madeleine Moon this week backed the shopworkers' union Usdaw's national spotlight day to highlight the benefits due to working parents and renew the pledge to end child poverty by 2020.

Mrs Moon said: "The government have put in place many measures to support working parents. I want to make sure that local families have all the information they need to claim what they're due, particularly in these tough economic times."

"I am also pleased to give my personal commitment to the pledge to end child poverty by 2020. The Government's action in helping parents back into work and giving them practical and financial support will help lift even more children out of poverty."

Town centre plan in line for award

THE Bridgend town centre regeneration scheme is among the entries for the BCSC TCE awards to be presented at BAFTA in London on June 17.

A spokeswoman explained: "The awards recognise outstanding achievement in maintaining the popularity and competitiveness of

our traditional town centres through the development of vibrant, attractive and accessible environments – part of BCSC's commitment to the ongoing regeneration effort that underpins sustainable communities."

BCSC (formerly the British Council of Shopping Centres) represents the retail property industry.

Lottery funding to boost local area £500,000 windfall for Bridgend town centre restoration

BRIDGEND is to get a further half a million pounds of Lottery funding towards the renovation of buildings in the town centre.

It is one of eight town centres set to benefit in the UK from the Heritage Lottery Fund – one of only two in south Wales.

The aim of the scheme is to bring historic buildings back into use, to boost the local economy and improve the quality of the environment.

Bridgend is to get £562,000 for Phase 2 of the Bridgend Townscape Heritage Initiative.

Phase 1 was started in 2004 and has drawn in almost £1m in grants. As a result, work is now nearing completion on buildings in Dunraven Place.

Six new businesses have started, 30 jobs have been created, 120 jobs safeguarded and 70 people trained in traditional skills.

The second phase will see the work continue along the terrace from the old stone bridge

towards Queen Street, along Dunraven Place.

This Georgian terrace is Grade 2 listed and is in need of renovation and has lost some of its historic character.

Bridgend Council has identified 29 potential properties within the town centre conservation area, including a public house, believed to be The Victoria.

BCBC has teamed up with Bridgend College to train workmen in the traditional skills needed to restore these old buildings including how to repair and renovate sash windows. This is set to continue.

Deputy council leader David Sage said that the grant was wonderful news for the ongoing regeneration of the town centre: "This will allow

us to continue to unlock the potential of the town centre.

"We will build on the success of phase one to preserve and enhance the town's distinctive architectural character and heritage."

In all, the project is expected to cost £1.6m and there will be other

grants from Cadw and the Welsh Assembly Government.

A council spokesman added that talks were ongoing with private property owners in the town at the moment, and an announcement about which buildings will be renovated will be made later.

'Summer madness'

BRIDGEND Festivals are organising a 'Mid Summer Madness' event this week (June 4 - 6) with stalls located at Caroline Street and Wyndham Street; and 22 stalls from organisations linked to Bovo, will also be located in Dunraven Place tomorrow (Friday) and Saturday.

The event is being supported by the Big Draw from the arts and development department of BCBC. Performances will take place near the cenotaph, and will include Big Mac's Wholly Soul Band and 'The Skittles'.

Full details of the various events are available on 01656 661338.

New health board chief is appointed

THE new chief executive of the Abertawe Bro Morgannwg Local Health Board has been appointed.

Mr David Sissling will take the helm of the new board, which will take over responsibility for the current Abertawe Bro Morgannwg NHS Trust – which runs all the hospitals in an area stretching from Bridgend to Swansea, and also the functions of the old Local Health Boards, which are being scrapped.

There were 22 health boards in Wales which commissioned services from the seven trusts. There is one for Bridgend and another for Cardiff and the Vale – and both will disappear.

The new board will also serve people living in the western Vale, who

access health services at the Princess of Wales Hospital

The new boards will be set up this month and will become fully operational from October 1.

Mr Sissling worked in the Merchant Navy before joining the NHS in 1993, under a programme to bring in and develop suitable people from outside the NHS who showed chief executive potential.

He became a chief executive of a major teaching hospital and later worked at health authority and strategic health authority level.

From 2006 to 2008, he was Permanent Secretary to the Health and Social Care Authority in Northern Ireland and was programme director for healthcare in London at the time of his appointment.

A spokesman for the

Wales NHS said Mr Sissling has particular experience in leading large scale organisational and service changes across the health and social care system and is a very experienced chief executive.

Paul Williams, former chief executive of the Bridgend, and later Abertawe Bro Morgannwg NHS Trusts, who is now acting head of the NHS in Wales, reported that the appointments of all six chief executives had been made from a field of very high calibre applicants.

He said: "I believe we have chosen people who have the skills and experience to deliver the organisational changes within the NHS, which will ultimately improve patient care and the working environment for staff."

SPECIAL NEEDS TEACHER ON SHORTLIST FOR AWARD

A SPECIAL needs teacher from Bridgend is on the short list for the 2009 Teaching Awards.

Camille Thomas is the co-ordinator for special educational needs at Archdeacon John Lewis Church in Wales Primary School in Brackla.

She has been shortlisted for the award for Special Needs Teacher of the Year in the Welsh Teaching Awards.

She will learn next Tuesday (June 9), if she has been successful at a ceremony taking place at Cardiff City Hall. She is

up against two other finalists in that category.

Known as the teaching Oscars, the awards were set up in 1998 by Lord Putnam and are administered by an independent charity.

Headteacher Sian Evans praised Miss Thomas as being highly talented and inspirational: "She is well-respected by pupils and colleagues alike. We are delighted that Camille has been shortlisted."

"These awards are known within the profession as our equivalent of the Oscars, so it's a great honour for our school that one of our teachers

has been nominated, We are very proud of her."

Miss Thomas commented: "It is a privilege to have reached the shortlist. There are many outstanding teachers in Wales and these awards recognise and celebrate the contribution made by the teaching profession."

Judges from the award scheme have visited the school and observed Miss Thomas teaching. They spoke to pupils, colleagues and parents as part of their assessment.

Miss Thomas (31), comes from the Pontypridd area.



ABOVE: Camille Thomas.

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x x x x x

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Family Notices

Doris STARK

Passed away May 26, 2009 at Llandough Hospital.
Sadly missed by all her family.
Resting at AG Adams & Son Funeral Home, Gladstone
Road, Barry, until the funeral on Monday June 8.
Service in the chapel of AG Adams & Son at
12.30pm, followed by a committal service at
Coychurch Crematorium at 1.45pm.
Family flowers only please. Donations if so
desired to the British Heart Foundation.

COLLINS

Albert Arthur
On May 30, peacefully at Holme Tower Marie Curie
Centre, Penarth, Bert of Rhosee and formerly
of Cowbridge.

Beloved husband of the late Sylvia, dearly-loved father
of Susan, much loved grandfather of Jason, Nicola,
Craig and Lindsay. Resting at the Private Funeral
Home of W James & Sons, Fonnmon.
Funeral Friday June 12, service 12 noon at Holy Cross
Church, Cowbridge, followed by interment in Cowbridge
Cemetery. Family flowers only may
be sent to the Funeral Home, donations in lieu
if desired to Holme Tower Marie Curie Centre,
Bridgeman Road, Penarth.

Margaret CROSSMAN

Margaret of Llantwit Major who peacefully passed away
at home on May 29th, beloved wife of Howell, dearly-loved
mother of Sally, David and the late Susan. Mother-in-law to
William, David and Julie, much-loved Nana to Ben, Chris,
Mark, William, Jess, Lucy, Tom and Luke.
A long illness borne graciously with the dedicated support
of Dr Anna Foreman and the wonderful District Nurses
aided by Cherish, Caring Companions and Marie Curie.
Funeral Friday, June 5th, 2.30pm at Wenvoe Church.
Donations in lieu of flowers may be made to 'The
Progressive Supranuclear Palsy Association (P.S.P.)',
c/o J. James, 11 Fonnmon Road, Rhosee CF62 3DZ.

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FINE WIN FOR BARRY WANDERERS MAINTAINS THEIR PROMOTION PUSH

BARRY Wanderers Second XI travelled to Waunfawr Park for their latest league fixture against Cross Keys.

The Wanderers vice captain, Mark Ellis, won the toss and had no hesitation in batting.

Indeed, the Wanderers skipper Chris Barnes was a happy man as he arrived just in time after getting delayed in traffic.

After a promising start, Barnes chased a wide ball and got a snick to the keeper for a six.

When Luke Denning and Colin Rowlands were dismissed in quick succession with the score on 31-3 things looked precarious.

A mini revival took place between Toozer and Ellis before the latter was bowled round his legs for 21.

At 62-4, in came Tom Ridgewell to play a match winning innings and his 62 not out, at almost a run a ball, swung the momentum into the Wanderers favour.

Elwyn Toozer played the anchor role for a vital 30 before he was bowled, while, with the score at 141-5, Rob Tucker, promoted up the order, hit 19 quick runs to enable the Wanderers to post a score of 178-7 in their allocated 45 overs.

BWCC had to field and bowl well to contin-

ue their winning run.

The Cross Keys openers were very watchful to the opening bowlers, although Dave Morgan clean-bowled Shardland for 10.

Watkins was soon back in the pavilion with the same combination of Morgan and bowled in the scorebook.

However, a Cross Keys fightback saw the score move past 50 in the 14th over.

As Cross Keys looked to increase the run rate, Ashton bowled T.Morgan and in Ellis' first over, he had the dangerous N Mole LBW for 33.

Ellis then took two further wickets to leave Cross Keys on 75-6 and effectively it was game over.

Ashton finished his spell with figures of 1-13 off 10 overs.

Change bowlers Toozer and Furnham continued to turn the screw, Toozer bowling Amos for five, and led to Cross Keys being 90-8.

However, some effective and obstinate batting saw Cross Keys through to 125-8 off their 45 overs and a 53 run victory for the Wanderers.

A good all round effort and 24 points in the bag led the Wanderers to third in the table and a chance to keep the push for promotion going.

With a home match

on Saturday against Gyrllings and Croesycelliog, the Wanderers Second XI will look to continue their fine form.

The Dock View Auto Centre man-of-the-match was Tom Ridgewell.

Large total helps victory THE Wanderers welcomed Chepstow Thirds to a baking-hot Hayes Point and the ground was a picture.

Home skipper Keir chose to bat after winning his first toss of the season.

The Wanderers got off to a terrific start with Lanagan and Sheriff taking full advantage of the conditions by putting on 86 for the first wicket off 19 overs.

However, the partnership was broken when Sheriff fell to the skipper Starr for 29.

Aled Hughes, a winter signing for the Wanderers, came to the crease looking for his third successive century, and his second in the league.

He quickly got into his stride and, with Lanagan, guided their side to 138-1 off 28 overs.

Lanagan had passed his 50 (his third in the league in a row) and as he looked set for a ton, he was bowled by the resourceful Starr for a wonderful 82.

Johnson and Hughes

accelerated the scoring and the Wanderers brought up the 200 in the 36th over, just two wickets down.

With plenty of batting to come, risks were taken; Johnson falling for a well crafted 25, and Hughes fell short of his hat-trick of tons, scoring 78.

Chepstow were claiming wickets but the runs kept coming, putting the Wanderers onto 289-5 off their 45 overs.

With runs in hand, the Wanderers attacked, but Chepstow countered, scoring 34 off their first five overs.

Visiting opener Evans took the game to his hosts, but soon Beckett had his partner Bevington bowled and this started a fight-back that pegged the Chepstow batsmen back and controlled their run-rate.

The runs slowed up and soon Chepstow knew they would have to take risks to get close to their target.

After 20 overs, Chepstow were on 70-2.

Eager to kick on, shots started to be played, and this worked out wonderfully for off-spinner Barratt, who claimed three vital scalps.

Beckett chipped in with a wicket, and soon Wanderers had their guests 128-7 off 28.

Evans Davies cleaned up the tail and Chepstow were all out in the 39th over for 173.

A good all-round performance from the bowlers who toiled away in difficult heat, but Davies, Beckett and Barratt were rewarded with a spread of the wickets.

The Sofa Sofa Barry Wanderers man-of-the-match was Gareth Lanagan, for his 82; the linchpin of the batting line-up, it was he who set up the daunting winning total.

Easy win for Wanderers THE Wanderers made the trip to Lisvane Thirds at St Mellons, looking to maintain their 100 per cent start to the season.

Home skipper Layne and Norris put on 109-22 overs, and it was hard work for BWCC as Lisvane cut, pulled and hooked their way to a good start.

A flurry of wickets saw the reliable Blundell help himself to two scalps, the second an audacious leg cutter that beat Sandandaji all ends up and clipped the top of the off-peg.

By the time Hughes claimed the vital wicket of Norris for a fine 75, caught behind by Keir, Lisvane had fallen to 180-6 off 40 overs.

However, a useful 16 from Bowen ensured Lisvane scored maximum batting points and posted a potentially tricky total of 202-7 off

their 45 overs.

Things didn't start well for the Wanderers when hero Sheriff departed for three.

Aled Hughes strode to the crease and nursing a hamstring injury, he dropped on 10.

However, with the guidance of his partner Lanagan, he battled through and soon he and Lanagan found runs easy to come by.

By 20 overs, both batsmen had helped themselves to 50s and Hughes, still hampered by his injury, was smashing boundaries to all ends of the ground, and he reached 112 off just 85 balls.

He was brilliantly supported by Lanagan who also ended up unbeaten, scoring 72.

The Wanderers eventually reached their target in the 28th over, scoring 205-1, securing themselves their second successive nine-wicket victory.

The Sofa Sofa Barry Wanderers man-of-the-match was Aled Hughes for his brilliant 112no.

Five wicket victory ON another sunny afternoon at Hayes Point, the Wanderers' Seconds looked to continue their good form by entertaining Lisvane Fourth.

Lisvane elected to bat and it looked like being a long afternoon in the sun as they started off at a rapid pace.

However, Morgan soon found his consistent line and length and pegged the openers back with a spell of 10 overs, 1-20.

With the Wanderers keeping the score to 66-1 off 23 overs, the second half of the innings would be pivotal to determining the outcome of the game.

Credit must go to Rob Tucker, Mike Ashton and Elwyn Toozer for some excellent bowling and the steady trickle of wickets kept the runs to a limit. Lisvane eventually finished on 144-7 off their allocated 45 overs.

The Wanderers captain went for youth at the top of the order with Bowen and Griffiths opening the batting.

Griffiths, however, was dismissed early on and was soon followed into the pavilion by Bowen and Coleman, both caught off full tosses.

This brought the

experienced Toozer and Tucker to the crease and a vital 63-run partnership ensued.

Tucker hit nine fours in his quickfire knock, but the duo departed in successive overs with both being bowled.

Toozer, who looked very comfortable, went for 22 and Tucker for 39.

This brought young Luke Denning and skipper Mark Ellis to the crease with 40 plus runs required and plenty of time to score them.

With a cautious approach, the runs came at a steady pace until Ellis hit a couple of boundaries to bring the target below 10 runs.

Denning batted with composure and dissected the field with a couple of lovely cover drives to bring the scores level, and when the next delivery went down the leg side, the game was over and the Wanderers completed a great win by five wickets.

Victory over Monkswood THE Sunday XI travelled east to Monkswood hoping to continue the club's good form.

Jamie Keir and Darryl Griffiths were sent in to open the batting but had to adjust their approach as they were faced with two slow bowlers. Keir adapted to the bowling quicker, but soon found himself back in the pavilion having been caught behind for 14.

This brought Pathak to the crease and he soon got into his stride, hitting some crisp boundaries.

With the runs flowing at both ends, Griffiths, looking for a fifty, drove a full toss straight to cover and was caught for 39.

With the score at 105-2 off 27 overs, the impressive Pathak was joined by Luke Harris.

Harris scratched around looking to find some form, while Pathak continued to look good at the other end and brought up his maiden 50 for the Wanderers.

Having put on 76 with Harris, Pathak was run out looking to push on the score for a fine 72.

Harris was next to go for 44, caught and bowled in the final over trying to get to his 50.

The Wanderers innings came to a close on 205-5.

After an interval the Wanderers took to the

field.

Hassett and Evan Jones opened the bowling but struggled to make a break through.

Ian Ford was brought on to try and turn the game in Barry's favour, however the Monkswood opening pair weren't going to give their wicket away easily and moved the score onto 75 without loss.

Ford struck, taking the wicket of M Tucker, caught by Jamie Keir at long off, for 48.

He then got the important wicket of G Roberts, bowling him for a fine 63.

With the two danger men out, Wanderers looked to put the squeeze on.

Young James Griffiths was introduced into the attack with his left arm finger spin, and he gave nothing for the batsman to hit.

Griffiths picked up two well deserved wickets including a good catch behind the stumps from Phil Wolfenden.

The inning finished on 180-5, handing a fourth consecutive victory to the Sunday XI by 25 runs.

The Spectrum Displays man-of-the-match was Devanka Pathak for his fine 72.

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ABOVE: Even Santa and his twin made it to the Ty Hafan fun run!

The glorious week-end sunshine encouraged almost 400 people to take part in the first Ty Hafan Barry Island Fun Run on Sunday (May 31).

The event, which has replaced the former 5K run to allow more families to take part, was a huge success and the organisers are hoping numbers will rise year on year.

Alan Drury, the event co-ordinator, said: "We would like to thank all the runners and volunteer marshals for taking part as well as local traders and the general public for all their support."

"It is anticipated that the run will raise around £20,000, which will enable Ty Hafan to continue providing its unique services to life limited children, young people and their families

from across Wales."

Adult runners are being encouraged to send their sponsorship money in early, as there is a chance to win an evening's theatre dining, together with an overnight stay and breakfast, donated by the Cophorne Hotel, while the junior prize is a pass into Quaser, along with 15 friends.

For more information about Ty Hafan visit www.tyhafan.org

Vale road works report

Dock View Road junction with Thompson Street, Barry - ongoing temporary traffic signals, to allow construction work on the adjacent footbridge over railway line.

Sully Road, between Penarth and Sully (near Ashgrove School) - intermittent traffic control to allow construction of new access.

Various roads in Llantwit Major town centre - will be closed between 8am-6pm, on Saturday, June 20, for the Victorian fayre.



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- 04 04 BMW 3 Series 2.0 318ci ES 2-dr Coupe in met silver grey with anthracite interior, a/c, alloys wheels, 1 previous owner, 61,315 miles£7,995
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- 05 05 MGTF 1.6 115 Convertible In ignition blue, rear glass screen, alloy wheels, CD, only 18,025 miles£5,995
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- 01 Y PEUGEOT 206 1.6GLX 5-dr. In metallic blue with dark interior, air con, front fogs, only 64,000 miles£2,995



04 04 Mini 1.6 Cooper Pepper 3-dr Hatchback. In chili red with half leather interior, rear spoiler, alloy wheels, air con, only 50,170 miles£7,995



02 02 BMW 3 Series 2.0 318ti SE Compact Hatchback 3-dr. In jet black with anthracite interior, parking sensors, multifunction steering wheel, cd, climate control, electric windows and mirrors, only 79,181 miles£4,995



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07 57 Chevrolet Matiz 1.0SE 5-dr Hatchback. In poly silver with blue interior, CD, air con, central locking, immobiliser, only 14,230 miles£3,995



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04 04 MG ZR+ 1.4 3-dr. In metallic grey with half leather interior, electric windows, air con, alloy wheels, CD, only 63,335 miles£3,995



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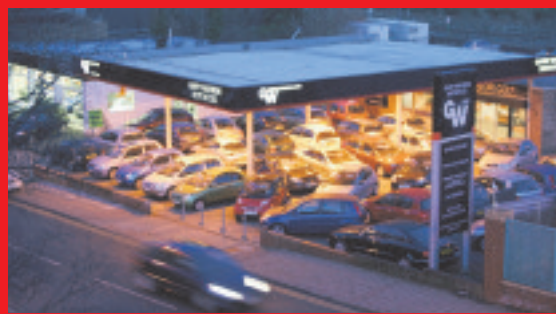
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81	MGB Roadster	in gunmetal grey with light grey leather trim. Nut and bolt restoration. on offer at	£6,995
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55	RENAULT Megane 1.5 Diesel Expression Automatic.	In met silver, 37,000 miles	£6,495
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06	NISSAN Micra 1.4 SVE Automatic.	In met grey, 26,000 miles, fantastic specification	REDUCED BY £500 TO £5,995
06	PEUGEOT 207 1.4S 3-dr	in met grey, very desirable hatch at	£5,995
53	VOLKSWAGEN Golf 1.6 Match.	In met black, 24,000 miles, with alloys, CD, air con, etc	£5,995
04	TOYOTA Avensis 1.8 T3X	in met silver, low mileage family car at only	REDUCED BY £500 TO £5,495
07	RENAULT Clio 1.2 Campass 3-dr	in silver with cd, a/c, etc	£4,995
55	RENAULT Clio 1.2 Expression 5-dr	in silver, 42,000 miles with cd, sunroof, etc	£4,995
05	RENAULT Clio 1.2 Extreme 4.	In met. grey, 38,000 miles with CD, alloys	£4,995
05	SMART Four Four 1.5 Pulse 5-Dr.	In black, 33,000 miles, full glass roof, CD, etc.	£4,995
05	CITROEN C3 1.4 Desire	In light met-blue, 34,000 miles, cd, etc.	£4,995
54	VAUXHALL Corsa 1.3 CDTi Energy 3-dr	in black, low mileage diesel at	£4,995
54	FORD Mondeo 2.0 LX 5-Dr Automatic.	In pacific blue, 42,000 miles with cruise control, a/c, CD, etc.	£4,995
03	CITROEN C8 2.0 HDi SX 7 Seater	In Jade metallic, 70,000 miles with electric sliding rear doors	£4,995
04	SMART CAR Pulse.	Red & black, black leather trim, 35,000 miles. full glass roof	REDUCED BY £300 TO £4,695
54	SUZUKI 1.5 VVTi Ignis Sport.	In Met Silver, 50,000 miles, with Recara sports seats, alloys etc.	£4,695
52	TOYOTA Yaris 1.5 T-Sport 3-dr	in smoke silver, 41,000 miles, FSH, superb value at	£4,695
04	PEUGEOT 206 1.4 Verve 5-dr	in ice blue metallic, 29,000 miles	£4,495
04	NISSAN Almera 2.2 DCI SE 5-dr.	49,000 miles, superb value diesel at	REDUCED BY £500 TO £4,495
54	FIAT Panda 1.2 Eleganza	in met-blue, 52,000 miles with roof rails, CD, A/C	£3,995
03	VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 SX 3-Dr.	In Black, 61,000 miles with CD, alloys etc.	£3,795
03	SEAT Ibiza 1.4S 3-Dr.	In Oyster metallic, 53,000 miles, with air con, CD, etc.	£3,795
55	FIAT Punto 1.2 Sunroof Special.	In blue, very nice example	REDUCED BY £600 TO £3,695
04	FORD Ka 1.3 Style	In Silver, low mileage, local car at	£3,695
03	VAUXHALL Astra 1.6 Active 5-dr.	In met silver, 14,000 miles, 1 owner	£3,695
04	DAEWOO Kalos 145X 5-dr.	Met blue, 17,000 miles, ideal family hatch, fantastic value	REDUCED BY £200 TO £3,495
04	DAEWOO Xsara Desire 5-Dr.	In met. burgundy, 23,000 miles, comfortable stylish hatch at	£3,495
05	DAEWOO Lacetti SX 5-dr	in silver, 26,000 miles, excellent example at	£3,495
03	RENAULT Megane 1.4 Dynamique 5-dr	in met blue, stylish modern family hatch at	£3,495
03	RENAULT Clio 1.2 Expression 16v.	3-dr in electric blue, low mileage local car at	£3,495
02	PEUGEOT 206 1.1LX 5-dr.	In met grey, low mileage	£3,495
53	FIAT Punto 1.2 Active 3-Dr.	In met red, low mileage, low insurance	£3,295
02	MG ZR 2.0 Diesel 3-dr	in met burgundy, low mileage example at	£3,295
55	CHEVROLET Lacetti 1.4 SE 5-dr.	In black, fantastic value at	REDUCED BY £500 TO £2,995
04	DAEWOO Matiz 800 Extra	In red, low mileage, local car at with CD, alloys etc	£2,995
53	MG 1.4 ZR 3-dr.	In Bright metallic Green, 55,000 miles, low mileage on offer at	REDUCED BY £500 TO £2,995
03	FORD Ka 1.3i.	In Blue, 30,000 miles, local car at	£2,995
02	SKODA Fabia 1.4 16v 4-dr	in light metallic blue, 50,000 miles	£2,995
Y	NISSAN Micra 1.0 S 5-dr Automatic.	In met-green, only 21,000 miles, 2 lady owners from new	£2,995
Y	RENAULT Clio 1.4 Ellize 5-dr.	In red, high spec hatch at	£2,495
Y	FORD Fiesta 1.6 Freestyle 3-Dr.	In black, low mileage, local car at	£2,495
Y	VOLKSWAGEN Golf 1.6 Estate	In Silver with privacy glass, roof rails etc.	REDUCED BY £1000 TO £1,995

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06 06 VAUXHALL Zafira 1.6i Life 5-dr
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08 08 FOCUS 1.6 TDCi Style
a/c, cd, alloys, vision blue



08 58 RENAULT Twingo 1.2 16v Dynamique
3-dr. Alloys, a/c

FORD

08 08 FIESTA 1.4 TDCi Style 3-Dr. Cd, c/l, e/w	£7695
07 07 FIESTA 1.2S Style Climate 3-Dr. A/c, cd, under 4000 miles	£5395
06 56 FIESTA 1.4 TDCi Style 5-Dr. cd, e/w, £35 to tax	£6695
06 06 FIESTA 1.4 Zetec 3-dr. Alloys, a/c, cd, quickclear	£5695
05 05 FIESTA 1.4 TDCi Zetec Climate 5-dr. Alloys, a/c, cd	£5695
05 05 FIESTA 1.4i Zetec Climate 3-dr. A/c, alloys, cd	£4495
04 54 FIESTA 1.4 Zetec 3-Dr. A/c, cd, electrics	£4495
08 08 FUSION 1.4 TDCi Plus 5-dr. Alloys, a/c, cd	£8795
05 55 FUSION 1.4 Zetec Climate 5-dr. A/c, alloys, cd, under 9000 miles	£6495
08 08 FOCUS 1.8 TDCi Zetec 5-Dr. a/c, cd, alloys	£10495
08 08 FOCUS 1.8 Zetec TDCi 5-dr. Alloys, a/c, cd, electrics	£10495
08 08 FOCUS 1.6 Titanium 5-dr. Alloys, a/c, cd, privacy glass	£9995
08 08 FOCUS 1.6 TDCi Style 5-dr. A/c, cd, electrics	£9995
06 06 FOCUS 1.8 TDCi LX 5-dr. A/c, alloys, cd	£7495
06 06 FOCUS 1.8 TDCi Ghia 4-dr. A/c, alloys, cd	£6995
06 06 FOCUS 1.6 LX 5-dr. a/c, cd, electrics	£6295
06 56 FOCUS 1.6 LX Estate 5-dr. a/c, cd, electrics	£5795
05 55 FOCUS 2.0 Ghia 4-dr. Alloys, a/c, park assist	£6495
05 55 FOCUS 2.0 TDCi Ghia 4-dr. Alloys, a/c, park assist	£6995
05 05 FOCUS 1.6 Zetec Climate 5-dr. Alloys, a/c, cd	£5995
05 05 FOCUS 1.6 Zetec Climate 5-dr. a/c, alloys, cd	£5995
04 04 FOCUS 1.8 Ghia Estate. a/c, cd, electrics	£4995
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08 08 C-MAX 1.8 TDCi Zetec 5-dr. Sport pack, a/c, cd	£10995
08 57 C-MAX 1.8 TDCi Titanium 5-dr. Alloys, a/c, cd	£10995
06 06 C-MAX 1.6 TDCi Zetec a/c, cd, alloys	£6995
06 06 C-MAX 1.6 TDCi Zetec 5-dr. Alloys, a/c, cd	£6995
06 06 C-MAX 1.8i LX 5-dr. A/c, alloys, cd	£6495
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09 09 MONDEO 2.0 Edge 5-dr. A/c, cd, bluetooth	£11995
05 05 MONDEO 2.0 TDCi 130 LX 5-dr. a/c, cd, cruise	£5995
05 05 MONDEO 1.8 LX 5-dr. a/c, cd, cruise	£4995
05 05 MONDEO 2.0 TDCi LX. a/c, cd, 130ps, 6-speed	£4495
07 07 S-MAX 1.8 TDCi LX 5-dr. 7-seats, park assist	£12495
07 57 GALAXY 1.8 TDCi Ghia. a/c, cd, 7 seats	£13995

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09 09 FOCUS CC3 2.0. Black, cream leather luxury pack	£15995
09 09 FOCUS 2.0 TDCi CC2. Alloys, aa/c, cd, 1 only	£14995
08 58 VAUXHALL Astra 1.6i Twin Top Sport. A/c, alloys, cd	£12995
06 06 VAUXHALL Astra 1.6 Design. Alloys, cd, a/c	£8995
02 52 PEUGEOT 206 1.6S Coupe Cab. A/c, 6 Disc, low miles	£5295

AUTOMATICS

08 08 FOCUS 1.6 Zetec Auto 5-dr. Alloys, a/c, cd	£9995
08 08 FUSION 1.4 Zetec Auto 5-dr. a/c, cd, alloys	£8995

08 08 NISSAN Noto 1.6 i Acentia 5-dr Auto. Bluetooth, alloys, a/c, cd, under 1,200 miles	£8995
08 57 MONDEO 2.3 Edge Estate Auto. Sat nav, park assist	£11995
08 57 MONDEO 2.0 TDCi Titanium Auto 5-dr. fully loaded	£13995
06 06 FIESTA 1.6 Ghia 5-dr Auto. Alloys, a/c, cd, full electrics	£7295
07 07 FUSION 1.6 Auto 5-Dr Zetec. a/c, cd	£7995
06 06 FUSION 1.6 Zetec Auto 5-dr. a/c, cd, alloys	£7295
06 06 FOCUS 1.6i Zetec Climate 5-dr Auto. A/c, alloys, cd	£6995
06 06 FOCUS 1.6 LX 5-dr Auto. a/c, cd, electrics	£6495
06 06 FOCUS 1.6 Sport Estate Auto. Alloys, a/c, cd	£6495
06 06 C-MAX 2.0 Zetec Auto. Alloys, a/c, cd, choice	£6995
06 55 FIESTA 1.4 Zetec Climate Auto 3-dr. Alloys, a/c, cd	£6295
06 55 FOCUS 2.0 Ghia 5-dr Auto. Alloys, cd, cruise	£6995
06 55 C-MAX 2.0 Ghia Auto 5-dr. Alloys, a/c, cd	£7295
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OTHERS

08 58 RENAULT Twingo 1.2 16v Dynamique 3-dr. Alloys, a/c	£6995
08 08 TOYOTA Aygo Blue 1.0 VVTi 5-dr. A/c, bluetooth	£7495
07 57 PEUGEOT 308 1.6S 5-dr. a/c, electrics	£8495
07 57 TOYOTA Yaris 1.3 TR 5-Dr. a/c, cd, alloys	£7995
07 07 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Expression 3-dr. a/c, cd	£6495
07 07 VAUXHALL Meriva 1.3 CDTi Life. a/c, electrics, cd	£7995
07 07 PEUGEOT 207 1.4 Sport 5-dr. Alloys, a/c, cd	£7495
07 07 VW Fox 1.2S 3-dr. cd, electrics	£5295
06 06 RENAULT Scenic 2.0 Privilege 5-dr. A/c, alloys, cd, 1/2 leather trim	£6995
06 06 VAUXHALL Zafira 1.6i Life 5-dr. 7 seats, a/c, cd	£6995
06 06 CITROEN Picasso 1.6 HDi MPV Desire. Full electrics	£6495
06 06 CITROEN Picasso 1.6 HDi Exclusive. Climate, alloys	£6695
06 06 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 SXI + 3-dr. Half leather, a/c, cd	£5995
06 06 NISSAN Note 1.4 SE 5-dr. a/c, cd, alloys	£6495
06 06 RENAULT Modus 1.4 Dynamique 5-dr. cd, a/c	£4995
05 55 PEUGEOT 206 1.4 Sport 3-dr. Alloys, a/c, cd	£4495
05 05 RENAULT Scenic 1.9 DCi Dynamique 6-speed. a/c, cd	£6495
05 54 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Extreme 3 3-dr. a/c, alloys	£4295
04 54 PEUGEOT 206 1.4S Station Wagon 5-dr. A/c, cd	£4995
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03 03 PEUGEOT 206 1.4 Look 3-dr. a/c, electrics	£3495
02 02 RENAULT Laguna 1.8 5-dr Expression. a/c, alloys, cd	£2495
01 51 CHRYSLER PT Cruiser 2.0 Ltd 5-dr. a/c, cd, leather	£3995
01 Y MAZDA Premacy 1.8 Atlantis 5-dr. cd, a/c, electrics	£2995



09 09 MONDEO 2.0 Edge 5-dr
A/c, cd, bluetooth



08 08 C-MAX 1.8 TDCi Zetec 5-dr MPV.
a/c, cd



08 08 FUSION 1.4 Zetec Auto 5-dr
a/c, cd, alloys, tonic blue



08 57 MONDEO 2.3 Edge Estate Auto.
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09 BMW X5 3.0d M Sport 7-Str Auto, silver, black leather, front headlights, with rear screen



07 BMW 320i SE Cabriolet, black met, new shape, 16,000 miles, FBWVSH, c/w, a/c, climate, cruise, alloys



06 MERCEDES E280 3.0 Avantgarde Diesel 4-dr, silver, black nappa leather, V6 diesel, 7-spd, alloys, elec seats



06 BMW 320i CD Diesel Cabriolet SE, silver met, Dakota leather, only 30,000, fsh, totally unmarked



05 BMW X3 D Sport, silver, very low mileage, just 33,000 miles, fsh, sport model, alloys, cd, elw, r/cf



06 BMW 320i M Sport 4-dr, blue met, only 37,000 miles, FBWVSH, nappa leather, a/c, remote locking

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07 SEAT Leon 2.0 FR TFSI 200 DSG 5-dr Auto, charcoal, sports seats, very rare, just 14,000 miles, fsh, 17" alloys



07 MAZDA MX5 2.0 Cabriolet Option Pack, silver, only 9,000 miles, multifunction steering wheel, cd player



08 KIA Carens 2.0 GS CRDI Auto 7-seater, red met, diesel, manufacturers warranty until 2013, 3,000 miles



04 MINI Cooper 1.6 2-dr Convertible, blue pearl, full anthracite leather, only 35,000 miles, full service history



07 VAUXHALL Tigra 1.4 16v Exclusive Convertible, as new, every possible extra, genuine UK main dealer car



06 BMW 116i ES 5-dr, Japan red, only 21,000 miles, fsh, 18 inch MV3 alloys, pas, a/c, cd, c/w, r/cf, Keycard

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06 HONDA Civic 1.8 SE 5-dr in cubanite met, 28,000 miles, low insurance, low tax, FVSH, digital display, a/c



07 HONDA Jazz 1.4 5-dr Auto Sport (7-speed), extremely low miles, manufacturers warranty, 7-spd, new shape



07 FIAT Punto 1.9 JRD M-Jet 130 Sporting, black met, only 20,000 miles, Fiat service history, new shape



03 LAND ROVER Freelander, 2.0, 4 ES Premium, iridium met, full blacuit leather auto, only 53,000 mls, sat nav



04 AUDI A3 2.0 TDI PD Sport 140 3-dr, aqua met, full anthracite sports cloth interior, fsh, completely unmarked



05 VOLKSWAGEN Golf 1.6 16v SFSI 5-dr black met, new shape, only 55,000 miles, fsh, alloys, a/c, c/w, o/m, pas

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04 VOLKSWAGEN Golf 1.9 SETDI 5-dr new shape diesel, silver met, capable of 50mpg, a/c, elw, alloy wheels



06 VAUXHALL Zafira 1.6 Club, Obsidian black with charcoal cloth, 52,000 miles, fsh, low insurance, a/c



05 TOYOTA Yaris 1.4 D4-D 7-Spirit 5-dr Diesel, zenith silver, totally unmarked, pas, r/cf, alloy wheels



06 FORD Fiesta 1.4-16v Zetec Climate, purple met, 22,000 miles, 1 owner, fsh, cd, air con



05 PEUGEOT 206 GTI 2.0 3-dr, blue met, genuine 30,000 miles, fsh, full black leather, climate, a/c, alloys



06 Vauxhall Corsa 1.2-16v Design, blue met, a/c, only 22,000 miles, fsh, a/c, c/w, r/cf, cf, mp3, alloys

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53 RENAULT Clio Sport 172 3-dr, silver, unmodified, only 62,000 miles, full Renault service history



04 TOYOTA Avenis 1.8 2.0 VVTi 5-dr in Mars red, only 50,000 miles, fsh, xenon, cd player, a/c, loaded



05 SKODA Fabia 1.9 TDI PD100 Elegance SE 5-dr in red pearl met, 65,000 miles, diesel, 100bhp, 1 owner



56 FORD Focus 1.25 Style 3-dr, Vegas purple met, 16,000 miles, immaculate condition, low insurance, a/c



53 Volkswagen Polo 1.4 Twist 3-dr in iridium grey met, only 32,000 miles, fsh, cd player, a/c, alloy wheels



55 SEAT Ibiza 1.9 Sport TDI 100 3-dr, immaculate, luna grey, economical VW diesel, 50mpg, only 57,000 miles



04 TOYOTA Celica 1.8 VVTi 3-dr silver, MoT, facelift new shape, full Toyota service history, a/c, e/w, pas, alloys



05 NISSAN Micra 1.4 SVCE 3-dr, blue, stunning, 26,000 miles, Full Nissan Service History, top of the range



04 HONDA Jazz 1.4 DSI SE Sport 5-dr, silver met, fsh, a/c, e/w, elm, very cheap to run and low tax band



06 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.3 Design CDTi 16v 5-dr in azure blue



06 TOYOTA Aygo 1.0 VVTi 5-dr, red, Bartok black interior, only 14,000 miles, full main Toyota dealer history



53 TOYOTA Yaris 1.3 3-Spirit 3-dr in titanium met with charcoal cloth interior, low mileage, unmarked condition



05 VAUXHALL Astra 1.8 Design 5-dr AUTO, Blue, 1 owner, a/c, cd, part ex welcome



05 RENAULT Clio 1.2 3-dr Rush LE, 16,000 miles, alloys, e/w, electric mirrors, sunroof, cd, group 2 ins



04 RENAULT Clio 1.2 - 16v Dynamique 5-dr, white, 36,000 miles, alloys, electric mirrors, pas, cd



04 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Dynamique 3-dr, Bermuda blue, 48,000 miles, fsh, pas, cd, alloys



52 CITROEN C2 1.6 Exclusive 5-dr in blue, only 36,000 miles, fsh, a/c, climate, e/w, only group 5 insurance



V TOYOTA MR2 2.0 GT Final Edition, rare final production, unmarked inside and out, 71,000 miles, fsh



Y TOYOTA Celica 1.8 VVTi 180 T Sport in blue, fsh, a/c, e/w, alloys, elm, pas, stunning condition



02 RENAULT Clio 2.0 172 Renaultsport, only 65,000 miles, service history, 17" light weight alloy wheels



52 RENAULT Clio 1.2 - 16v Expression 5-dr, yellow metallic, 66,000 miles, fsh, pas, remote central locking



03 ROVER 75 1.8 T Club SE Turbo, immaculate, 44,000 miles, fsh, full heated leather, epack, factory alloys



02 FORD Focus 2.0 Ghia 4-dr saloon, just 33,000 miles, fsh, black met, totally unmarked, anthracite velour seats



Y FIAT Punto 1.8 HGT 16v 3-dr, nardo blue, only 53,000 miles, sat nav, a/c, 6 disc cd multichanger

55 BMW 520D SE 4-dr. Black met, 26,000 miles, fsh, diesel, capable of over 50mpg, 1 owner, a/c, climate, alloys, e/w, c/w £13,995

56 AUDI A3 1.9 SE TDI 5-dr Diesel. Tornado red, full walnut burr, just 30,000 miles, full Audi service history, 17 inch alloy wheels £10,995

57 MINI Cooper 1.6 2-dr Convertible. Purple met, only 36,000 miles, full Mini service history, black electric mohair roof, parking sensors, 17 inch factory option alloy wheels, cd £9,995

07 SEAT Leon 2.0 Stylance FSU Auto 5-dr. Grey met, charcoal exclusive sports, full main dealer service history, dual zone climate control £9,995

06 VOLKSWAGEN Passat 2.0 TDI 140 SE 6speed, 4-dr. Black met, unmarked, as new, only 33,000 miles, full service history £9,995

06 VAUXHALL Zafira 1.9 CDTi 150 Design Auto. Silver met, only 34,000 miles, fsh, diesel 7-seater, a/c, alloys £9,495

57 JEEP Cherokee 2.8 CRD Limited. A fabulous example with full light slate grey interior, top of the range example with full leather, e/w, r/c, trip computer £8,995

06 VAUXHALL Astra 1.9 SRi CDTi 5-dr X pack Diesel. Black met, 48,000 miles, alloy wheels, computer, air con, cd player, pas, e/w, r/c, £8,995

56 MINI Cooper 1.6S. BRG met, two tone leather, supercharged Cooper S, 167 bhp, full service history, cd player, air con £8,995

07 TOYOTA Auris 1.6TR M Sport 5-dr. Blue met, only 17,000 miles, FTSH, air con, elec windows, PAS, e/w, stunning condition £8,995

57 VOLKSWAGEN Polo 1.4 SE TDI PD 3-dr Diesel. Silver, only 20,000 miles, as new, only £35 per year car tax, alloy wheels, cd player, air con £8,495

06 MINI One 1.6. Blue met, impeccable condition, covered only 48,000 miles, full service history, e/w, pas, air con, tyre inflation, TCS, cd £7,995

06 FORD Focus 2.0 16v Ghia Estate. 17,000 miles, artel blue met, black velour, unmarked, full service history, capable of 39.8 mpg £7,495

03 MERCEDES C220 CDI Avantgarde Estate. Obsidian black met, full grey leather, service history, 17 inch alloys, dual zone climate, a/c £7,995

03 MERCEDES C180K SE. Light blue met, only 52,000 miles, fsh, a/c, climate, alloys, r/c, c/w, e/w, pas £7,495

07 VOLKSWAGEN Caddy 1.9 140 C20. White, only 28,000 miles, FVWSH, cd player, r/c, genuine VW roof bars, diesel £7,495

06 FORD Focus 1.8 16v Zetec. 5-dr, almonde red pearl, unmarked, 7,000 miles, fsh, new shape, alloys, a/c, e/w, r/c, heated screens £6,995

06 MERCEDES A150 Classic SE. Silver met, only 24,000 miles, full Mercedes service history, new shape, a/c, cdm e/w, r/c, stunning condition £6,995

56 VAUXHALL Astra 1.9 CDTi 5-dr 1200 Design Estate in Osaka with charcoal black auerme cloth trim, service record, r/c, £5,495

53 VOLKSWAGEN Golf 2.0 GT TDI 5-dr (140) 6-speed. Iridium black met, fsh, genuine GT 140 BHP Diesel, climate control, a/c £6,495

56 FORD Fiesta Freedom 1.25 16v 3-dr. Silver, only 53,000 miles, FSH, air con, e/w, only group 3 insurance, low tax band £5,995

07 SEAT Ibiza 1.4 Stylance 3-dr in obsidian black met, covered only 13,000 miles with full seat service history, a/c £5,995

56 VAUXHALL Beetle 1.8T in pearl blue, full cream leather, Turbo, 67,000 miles, alloys, air con, heated seats, e/w, e/w, £5,995

06 RENAULT Master 2.5 LH35 TD (120) 3.5T LWB HT. Excellent condition, turbo diesel, 120ps, only 33,000 miles, fsh, cd player, pas, hi-top £5,995

55 FORD Focus 1.6 LX Climate 5-dr £5,995

04 TOYOTA Hi-Lux D4-D EX 4x4 Mk 4. in brilliant red met, amazing, it can go anywhere, very good condition and drives superbly £5,995

04 TOYOTA Hi-Lux D4-D EX 4x4 Pick-up (facelift). Red, D4-D Diesel, 4-wheel drive, Ifor Williams cab, VAT free, central locking, Sony audio £5,995

54 TOYOTA Hi-Lux 2.5 2-dr Pick-up D4-D £5,995

06 FORD Fiesta 1.4 Zetec Climate 3-dr. Black mica, ultra low mileage, only 27,000 miles, as new, full service history, r/c, pas £5,795

54 SKODA Octavia 1.9 TDI Classic 5-dr. Silver met, abs, central locking, immobiliser, fsh, pas, 24,000 miles, cd £5,495

55 PEUGEOT 206 1.4 Sport S 5-dr. New Model 206 sport, totally unmarked with full anthracite cloth trim, 5-dr, a/c £5,495

03 VOLKSWAGEN Passat 1.9 TDI Sport Estate. Green met, full sport anthracite velour, 130 bhp estate, full service history, a/c £4,995

Y BMW 318Ci SE Coupe in graphite met, low mileage coupe, a/c, climate control, alloys, cruise, e/w, unmarked £4,995

04 TOYOTA Celica 1.8 VVTi 3-dr. Silver met, Picard sports cloth, air con, Sony cd player, beautiful example £4,995

55 RENAULT Clio Dynamique 1.3 16v 3-dr. Silver, only 28,000 miles, FSH, air con, pas, only group 3 insurance, low tax band £4,995

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 06 CITROEN C4 1.4 VT Coupe. Finished in met grey, pas, r/c/l, e/w, cd, 1 owner, fsh, 37k £4995



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GEM sport

BACK PAGE COMMENT

by DON JOHN

Right royal shock as Lions stumble on a banana skin

THE first-up match against what was said to be the weakest opposition they would face on tour in South Africa, was always going to be a banana skin encounter for the British and Irish Lions.

However, despite the eventual outcome – a flattering 37-25 victory – surely no-one could have foreseen just how far the tourists would be found wanting against the Royal XV – essentially a scratch team of fringe semi-professional players.

The opening set-pieces had seemed to confirm pre-match expectations that the Lions would simply steamroller over lowly opponents who included no big name Springboks – and thus lay down an early psychological marker for the tour.

Instead, it was the Lions who looked more like the scratch team, as a sorry sequence of nervous errors, lack of precision, and carelessly wasted possession, was compounded by a baffling lack of

urgency which saw the initiative handed on a plate to hungry hosts, who sensed an historic upset was well within their grasp.

Indeed, it was only in the final 12 minutes, with the arrival of the cavalry (from the replacements bench) and a solo try of sheer brilliance by Bridgend's Lee Byrne, that the Lions clawed their way back and restored battered pride with two more late touchdowns.

No doubt the travelling Lions' fans heaved a massive sigh of relief at the final whistle, certainly echoed by the thousands glued to our TV sets back home.

The coaches, though, will have been dismayed at the below-par display and worrying lack of potency and understanding shown by players they handpicked from the best of the British Isles has to offer.

Three or four who failed to measure up at Rustenburg may have already seen their Test hopes dashed and will become peripheral figures on tour as Ian McGeechan and Co strive for a blend of bond-

ed steel and flair capable of taking on the super-confident Springboks at their own game.

They know they have precious little time to accomplish this and would have been hoping to get the mix (and the moves) right this time for yesterday's second outing against Super-14 side, Golden Lions in Johannesburg.

YOUNG GUNS SHINE ON TOUR

While seven of their countrymen were taking to the field in South Africa, the next generation of Wales players, reinforced by older heads, led by skipper Ryan Jones (how long before he is summoned to the Lions, I wonder?) were given a tough test of their own by a tenacious Canadian side.

In a see-saw encounter, the Welsh tourists, under stand-in coach Robin McBryde, eventually came through in the end to record a commendable 32-23 win, with some fine individual performances showing that some talented young guns are poised to put the pressure on their more established rivals come next season.

The under-13s take trophy in Silver Ball curtain-raiser



ABOVE: The successful Bridgend Athletic under-13 team.

THE Ath travelled to the Dairy Field in Llanharan to play in a curtain raiser to the Glamorgan County Silver Ball Final.

Their opponents were Aberavon Quins, who they locked horns with earlier in the season in a cracker of a game. This time it was no different as both sides really tore into each other.

The Quins had the better start to the game and applied some early territorial advantage. The contact area was fierce to say the least, and no quarter was given by either side.

The Quins were first to score following persistent pressure resulting in a penalty close to the Ath line. The Ath appeared to turn their backs momentarily, and the Quins scrum half darted over unopposed.

This was duly converted.

This, however, really sparked some life into the Ath and, from the kick off, they set up phase after phase with some clinical rucking, and this led to a great individual piece of skill by flanker Josh Evans, who sprinted away from a maul to score under the posts. This was converted by skipper Josh Carey.

The Ath forwards were now playing well as a unit, and once possession was spun out wide, the Ath back line always looked dangerous. The Quins though, were superb in defence.

Despite some close efforts, the Ath simply could not seem to add to their points total. Towards the end of the first half, the Quins applied some pressure of their own and this led to one of their big forwards powering over for a try which was converted right on half time.

Half time: Bridgend Athletic 7, Aberavon Quins 14.

The Ath youngsters certainly didn't need firing up during the half time pep talk, as they were raring to go in the second half. Once again they unleashed themselves and put on a display of quite scintillating rugby.

The Quins had no answer to the speed and tempo at which they played the game and this led to an early second try for flanker Josh Evans under wide. The Quins were by now trying to hang onto their slender two-point lead going into the last quarter of the match.

The Ath applied wave after wave of pressure but, at times took wrong options. At other times, last gasp defending saved the day for the Quins.

In what turned out to

be the last phase of the game, the Ath went from one side of the pitch to the other several times with one attack phase after another, and winger Lewis Dunlop crossed the line for a great winning try. This was converted by Josh Carey, to round off not only a great win but a superb all round season.

Final score: Bridgend Athletic 19 Aberavon Quins 14.

It would be unfair to start to single out any player for their performance, as it was simply a great team effort by all 18 players who took part in the game. Skipper Josh Carey stepped up to take the cup, and all the boys can now look forward to a well deserved summer rest before embarking on under-14s rugby next season, and the full application of WRU rules.

Bulls rampage as they ease to victory over the Steelers

NEATH PORT TALBOT STEELERS	10
BRIDGEND BLUE BULLS	48

THE Bridgend Blue Bulls continued their winning ways with an impressive performance at Aberavon Quins, sweeping aside the Steelers with a 48-10 win.

The first half belonged to the Blue Bulls with 30 unanswered points, which effectively killed off the game as a contest before the break.

A hat-trick from Matthew Hutchins and one

from Shaun Owens opened the scoring for the Blue Bulls.

A length-of-the-field run from Carl Davies set up Owens for his second, and with one conversion from Hutchins and four from Jamie Murphy, the whistle sounded for the break.

The half-time team talk for the Steelers seemed to have worked as they came out all guns blazing, and within two minutes Dai Fenton had scored 10 unanswered points, with two tries and a conversion, making the score 30-10.

The Blue Bulls steadied the ship as Jamie Murphy crossed the line and another conversion extended the lead to 26.

This seemed to end the Steelers revival as the Blue Bulls kicked on with tries from Cameron Shannon, Craig Fox and Farrell Dan to win the game 48-10.

MH

Bulldogs claim the league title

THE Bulldogs finished champions of the Bridgend Sunday Leisure League by a stunning four-point margin from Coity Crusaders.

The runners-up claimed the second spot following a 3-0 success over Racing Inter on the final day, thanks to Lewis Richards. They will join the champions at the coveted Leisure Leagues national tournament.

Matt Sparks started for The Bluebirds in their hard-fought 2-2 draw with FC08. Nathan Jenkins took the plaudits for AC Brackla, who warmed-up well for the new season, which starts next week, with a 4-2 victory against Velindre Foundation Fundraisers.

Crusaders give blood for cause

THERE was once an advertising campaign in Australia saying "Give blood, play rugby league", emphasising the tough element of the sport.

Now, at Bridgend Recreation Centre this Monday (June 8) at 3.15pm, Celtic Crusaders players, along with staff members, actually will be giving blood, attending the Welsh Blood Service's donation session to show their support for hospital patients in Wales.

The team will be preparing for their

game at home to Wigan Warriors on Saturday, June 13, but are taking time out to help the Welsh Blood Service.

Mike Turner, the club's chief executive, commented: "Giving blood is an important thing to do. You never know when you are going to need it."

The Welsh Blood Service are encouraging as many fans as possible to attend the session along with the players.

For further information contact Tracy Sampson, at the Welsh Blood Service on 01443 622089 or 07771 794606.

Former Mule opens gym

FORMER Welsh international, Jonathan Humphreys, has taken a trip down memory lane to officially open a new £27,000 sports facility in Bridgend.

A combined sponsorship package of £6,000 from Trefgryn Stores, and long term sponsors All Spares Ltd and David Sedgwick Solicitors has been matched by the Sports Council for Wales' Sportsmatch Cymru programme – a Welsh Assembly Government business incentive scheme for sport in Wales.



ABOVE: Jonathan Humphreys hands over the cheque for the new sports facility.

GEM Quiz League posers

HERE are your quiz questions for the week:

- 1) Seventy per cent of which country is covered by the Kalahari Desert?
- 2) Which chemical element is also known as 'Wolfram'?
- 3) Which ex-world heavyweight boxing champion was born in Marshall, Texas in 1948 and whose first four title fights were each outside the USA?
- 4) Which 'C' literally meaning slipper, is a moist aerated Italian bread made from olive oil?

A RUDGE Hon Sec, BGQL

- QUIZ ANSWERS:**
1. Botswana.
 2. Tungsten.
 3. George Foreman.
 4. Ciabatta.